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MOUNT PARKER AIR CRASH ENQUIRY

Findings Of Board: Five Recommendations

Wrong Order By Controller

That an order contrary to established procedure, which should not have been given or accepted, was given by the Controller-on-Duty, Kai Tak, shortly before the Mount Parker air crash in January, appears among the findings of the board of enquiry appointed to investigate the accident.

The board's report was issued yesterday. It also includes five recommendations submitted by the acting Inspector of Accidents, Mr. Max Oxford, which were considered by the Directorate of Air Services and the RAF, and have been implemented.

It will be recalled that Philippine Air Lines aircraft P4-C12, on January 25th, 1947, struck Mount Parker in a cloud while approaching Kai Tak airport. The crew of four was killed outright. There were no passengers and the cargo of U.S. \$5,000,000 in gold bullion, which was scattered over the mountainside, was recovered.

An enquiry into the cause of the accident which occurred to a Philippine Air Lines Inc. aircraft P4-C12 on January 25, 1947 was held at the Directorate of Air Services, Hong Kong, on February 6th and 7th.

Probable Track Of Plane

The investigation was conducted by Mr. M. N. Oxford, Acting Inspector of Accidents, assisted by Wing Commander E. Holden, R.A.F., of the Royal Air Force Station, Kai Tak, and Captain V. H. Dixon, an observer appointed by the Bureau of Aeronautics of the Government of the Philippines. Evidence was given by the air traffic control, signals and meteorological staff of the airport and by representatives of Philippine Air Lines Inc.

After consideration of the probable track of the aircraft during its descent through cloud and on the evidence produced the Board of Investigation found that:

Order Contrary To Procedure

(c) The cloudbase of 1,600 feet applied only to the harbour area and the base was lower outside of Lyemou Gap but no facilities existed for determining this.

(d) The Controller-on-duty assumed a cloud base of over 1600 feet and ordered a turn on instruments, expecting that cloud would be broken at or before the completion of the turn. He considered that he would lose R/T contact with the aircraft if it went further away on a descent. This order was contrary to established procedure and should not have been given or accepted.

(e) The bearing obtained after the turn indicates considerable drift to the harbour area and the aircraft was not placed in a position that at 1,600 feet VHF communication was blanketed. It is improbable that the advice to M. N. given at 1459 was received.

(f) The course to steer of 340 deg. did not keep the aircraft on a track of 335 deg. and further drift to port placed the aircraft in such a position that at 1,600 feet VHF communication was blanketed. It is improbable that the advice to M. N. given at 1459 was received.

Pilot's Rate Of Descent

(g) The pilot's rate of descent was not in accordance with M. N. instructions and he was M. N. subsequently at a greater height than he should have been at the time of 8 minutes flying.

(h) It is accepted that the crew was properly qualified and licensed, that the aircraft had effective licence and there is evidence to show that it was

other than airworthy.

As a result of these findings the Acting Inspector of Accidents submitted the following recommendations:

(1) All let-downs under control of Kai Tak Tower must be made on a descent flying away from high ground until contact is made.

(2) Where so equipped, aircraft having both HF and VHF R/T should be able to receive on both frequencies without switching. In case of failure of VHF communication, Tower Control should endeavour to establish contact by HF.

(3) Wagon Island meteorological post should be equipped with instruments to measure height of cloud.

Revised Procedure

These recommendations were considered by the Directorate of Air Services and the Royal Air Force and have been implemented. A slightly revised let-down procedure laying particular stress on breaking cloud while flying away from high ground has been published. A let-down procedure to the west of the Colony for use when the weather there is better than to the east (as is often the case) should be developed.

(Continued on Page 10.)

No Marshall Plan For Far East?

Washington, July 13. Informed quarters here did not expect any prospects in the foreseeable future on extension of the "Marshall Plan" to the Far East since it appears to be United States policy to extend aid in that direction on a country-by-country basis.

Delay In Japanese Payments

Washington, July 14. Announcement from Tokyo that the payment of reparations will begin at once may prove more imaginary than real.

The proposed payments to China, the Netherlands East Indies, the Philippines, Malaya and Burma are limited to Category "A"—those considered strictly military rather than peacetime facilities converted for war.

In the opinion of members of the Far East Commission the designated recipients of the payments of Japanese assets do not want the military equipment. Instead they are after the strictly peacetime machinery and equipment which is not yet available from Japanese reparations. What the five favoured nations will do appears to be up to their reparations commissions in Japan whose responsibility it is to make their requests of the occupation authorities.—Associated Press.

BRITISH MINE DISASTER

Canvey, July 13. Groups of miners tunnelled for more than 40 hours to reach the body of the third victim of the pit disaster at the Hindey Colliery near here. The bodies of the two others who perished in a roof fall that extended over 30 yards, two miles from the pit bottom, were recovered yesterday.

The pit will probably be closed on Wednesday to allow the men to attend the funeral service.—Reuter.

General Election Soon?

London, July 13. The Sunday Chronicle said today that Britain's economic position might result in a general election within the next nine months.

The article said that with the exhaustion of the American and Canadian loans, "a new mandate would be required from the electorate on a new plan for facing the future."

The constituency organizations of both the Labour and Conservative Parties have been warned to have their election machines in readiness at short notice. The Sunday Chronicle said.

The article said a "tentative Government plan" was being formulated, but this plan might be altered by American aid to Europe under the Marshall Plan.—United Press.

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN FOCHOW

Shanghai, July 14. The Chinese Customs have declared Fochow, capital of Fukien Province, a bubonic plague infected port.—United Press.

China Corruption Attacked

San Francisco, July 13. Confiscation of the wealth of many of China's leaders, including the brother of Madame Chiang Kai-shek, was advocated in an editorial appearing today in the Chinese Nationalist Daily, official organ of the Kuomintang Party in America.

The Chinese language newspaper, while agreeing with the Generalissimo's recent request for national mobilization to defeat the Communists, strongly urged that something be done to clean up corruption in high political circles.

The Nationalist Daily referred to press dispatches implying that Dr. H. H. Kung, former Minister of Finance and Dr. T. V. Soong, Madame Chiang's brother and China's former Premier, were involved in huge financial enterprises using their political influence to the disadvantage of

foreign and domestic commercial competition.

The newspaper said Kung and Soong have no way of denying the charges because they are true. The editorial referred to corruption within the government and the Party as "well known and open secrets." It said that in order that government may gain the confidence of the people and reform the present financial situation there should be "no further delay in liquidating the immense wealth of men who used their political power for their own gain."

Clean-Up Campaign

The Daily said: "We suggest the government should investigate the Soongs' wealth to see how they have been utilizing their political power to gather it and how they have been manipulating foreign exchange to their own advantage." Such wealth should be confiscated. If what these men have been doing is illegal, we should decide the case by law, and this Party should use disciplinary measures to stop it."

Kung and Soong were the only members of the Kuomintang Party mentioned by the newspaper in connection with the charges. But it alluded to former President Lin-Sin and Yu Chai-fu as examples of the opposite extreme, saying that these men devoted their lives and money to China.

In advocating a clean-up campaign within the Kuomintang Party and Government, the paper pointed out that President Chiang promised to institute political and economic reforms and put China's constitutional laws into force. It said such action is absolutely necessary to unify the people behind the Nationalist Government.—United Press.

EUROPEAN MISSING

A European woman by the name of Zeleny, aged about 30 and nationality unknown, has been missing from Yung Wo Nursing Home since about 12.30 p.m. yesterday.

She had been under treatment in the hospital for some time.

"Wanted for Murder," filmed in England for an American company, has been banned by Swedish movie censors and aroused lively debate in Finland, where the police fear it may inspire more sex murders.

The central figure of the film is a pathologic murderer.—United Press.

Murder Attempt In Bangkok

Bangkok, July 13. Suvit Phanthusut, member of Parliament from Chienmal—once the northern capital of Siam—miraculously escaped murder early this morning when two salvos from a Thompson submachinegun fired within five metres by a would-be assassin failed to hit him.

Suivit Phanthusut was deputy Minister of Finance under the Khuang administration and is now a prominent member of the opposition.

Suivit said that when he noticed the muzzle of a submachinegun sticking out from a waiting black saloon car he jumped into a ditch and narrowly escaped. He said the gunman fired a second salvo as the car drove away, but again missed him as he was lying flat in the ditch.

He said he had been warned of danger and had taken the precaution of asking police protection. The day the incident took place there was no special police guard as was usually provided him every day previously.

Suivit said he noted the number of the car's licence plate. The police have been investigating all day but have not yet recovered any clue.—United Press.

British troops sealed off the Jewish village of Even Yehuda, near Nathanya, as the widespread search for Sergeant Mervyn Paige and Sergeant Clifford Martin went on today. At an early morning conference in Nathanya, Major General R. N. Gale, commander of the 1st British Infantry division, Brigadier Moore, the area commander, and the District Commissioner, Mr. E. R. Reeves, planned the deployment of "troops, estimated at a brigade in strength, in the hunt for the Field Security men."

Orange groves, caves and sand dunes were being searched for the kidnappers' hideout.

It was learned reliably in Jerusalem today that the field forces of Haganah (Jewish resistance movement) which pulled out its forces from the search yesterday because it had not been given a free hand, might again rejoin in the hunt for the missing men.

Should the area come under military control, it would mean the withdrawal from the communities of the normal facilities of civil government.

This would include telephone and postal services and would mean complete isolation from the rest of Palestine.

DEPORTED TO HONG KONG

Singapore, July 13. Seventeen Chinese have been deported to Hong Kong on the motor-ship Van Heutz under a Singapore banishment ordinance for alleged crimes of violence.

Terrorist scenes occurred outside the Outram Road Court this morning when some of the men's families were admitted to say goodbye. Some families accompanied the deportees.—Reuter.

New Small Notes To Be Issued

Government's reply to complaints about the battered 5-cent and 10-cent notes was issued yesterday. In brief, it merely says that new notes are being issued.

The statement does not answer criticism of the notes themselves, and makes no comment about the suggestion that some form of metal coinage should be issued.

"Government has been making efforts for some time to replace the dirty and tattered ten and five cent notes now in circulation and the banks have been co-operating to the best of their ability."

"These efforts however, will succeed only with the cooperation of the public and especially of the large firms who handle quantities of these notes in the course of their business. These firms are earnestly asked not to put back into circulation the dirty notes which they receive, but to segregate them and pay them into their bankers, who will see that they are withdrawn."

"There are ample stocks of new notes but they can only be brought into effective circulation if business concerns co-operate."

"The inconvenience of the present small denomination notes is fully realized and Government has been exploring the feasibility of re-introducing coins of the pre-war type. It is hoped that this will prove possible, but the difficulties in obtaining supplies of such coins from England at present are considerable."

Warsaw, July 14. The British Council announced in Warsaw on Sunday that 23 Polish students and teachers will leave for Britain on July 16 to study at Cambridge, Birmingham and Liverpool Universities.—Associated Press.

Widespread Hunt For Kidnapped Britons

Jerusalem, July 13. Brigadier J. N. R. Moore said today that the Jewish diamond town of Nathanya, and more than 20 Jewish settlements which surround it, might be declared "a controlled area," subject to military law if the two British sergeants who were kidnapped on Saturday morning were not freed by midnight tonight.

A strict "house curfew" may also be imposed and no one will be permitted to leave or enter the isolated area.—Reuter.

PREMIER'S TOUR

Nanking, July 14. Premier Chang Chun is leaving Nanking shortly for a tour of North and South China according to persistent but unconfirmed reports today.

If Chang starts on his tour it will be his first trip from Nanking since his inauguration as Premier. Unlike Dr. T. V. Soong who, when Premier of China, conducted most of his business from Shanghai, Chang has been holding office at the Executive Yuan all the time.

It was also reported that a minor Cabinet reshuffle may be expected.—United Press.

FRANCE LEAD

Paris, July 13. France led Italy by six wins to three at the end of the second day of a friendly lawn tennis match here today.

In the men's singles, France won two matches out of three while in the men's doubles, each country won one match.—Reuter.

Chinese Civil Servants'

PETITION TO LONDON

Dissatisfaction with Government's newly-revised temporary high cost of living allowances was recorded at a meeting of the Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' and a special sub-committee has been formed to draft a petition to the Secretary of State for Colonies, the "China Mail" learned last night.

A responsible official of the Association told the "China Mail" that revised allowances benefited only the European civil servants and a very small percentage of the Chinese civil servants.

He pointed out that the majority of the Chinese civil servants were in Class III and below, with salaries under \$200 a month. The new allowances gave them only a few extra dollars a month.

The official also pointed to the fact that while the new allowances for the permanent civil servants were based on prewar salaries, temporary civil servants were getting the same allowances based on 1946 salaries, which were higher than prewar salaries. He said that Government should give the old staff much more consideration.

Back Pay. Another official of the Association said that the few dollars extra would not help much to meet the current cost of living, to which must be added at least the recent 30 per cent increase in rentals.

It is learned that the petition will also include an appeal for expediting "Occupation-period pay."

The Weather

Pressure is high E of Japan and in a ridge extending from the Ryukyu area across Japan, Korea, and North China, and across the Bohai Sea and Yellow Sea. Little sign of moving.

Today's Forecast: Light or moderate E winds, weather cloudy with occasional showers chiefly during the morning.

Yesterday's Weather: Maximum: 85.1 deg. F. Minimum: 76.7 deg. F. Sunshine: 1.5 hours. Rainfall: 41.5 mm. — 1.61 inches. Total since Jan. 1—122.2 mm. as against an average of 119.6 mm.

Barometer at 12 noon: 1013.6 m.m. Hg. at sea level. 1007.6 m.m. Hg. at 1000 ft. above sea level. Humidity: 66 per cent. Dew Point: 77 deg. F. Wind Direction: Calm. Wind Force: Nil. No knots.

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Japan's Plan For Easy Terms.

BRITISH ARMY DEFIED

Jerusalem, July 14. The Irgun Zvai Leumi announced today that the two British army sergeants kidnapped at Natanya on Saturday were unharmed and defied the British Army and police to free them.

The two Britons held as hostages for three Irgunists under death sentences are in a place where they can be kept a month or more, said an announcement of the Jewish underground organization.

British authorities held the threat of martial law over Natanya as they directed an intensive search for the abducted sergeants.

They warned that unless the men were returned by Monday night, military rule would be imposed over a 60 square mile area. Previously the deadline had been reported as midnight on Sunday night.—Associated Press.

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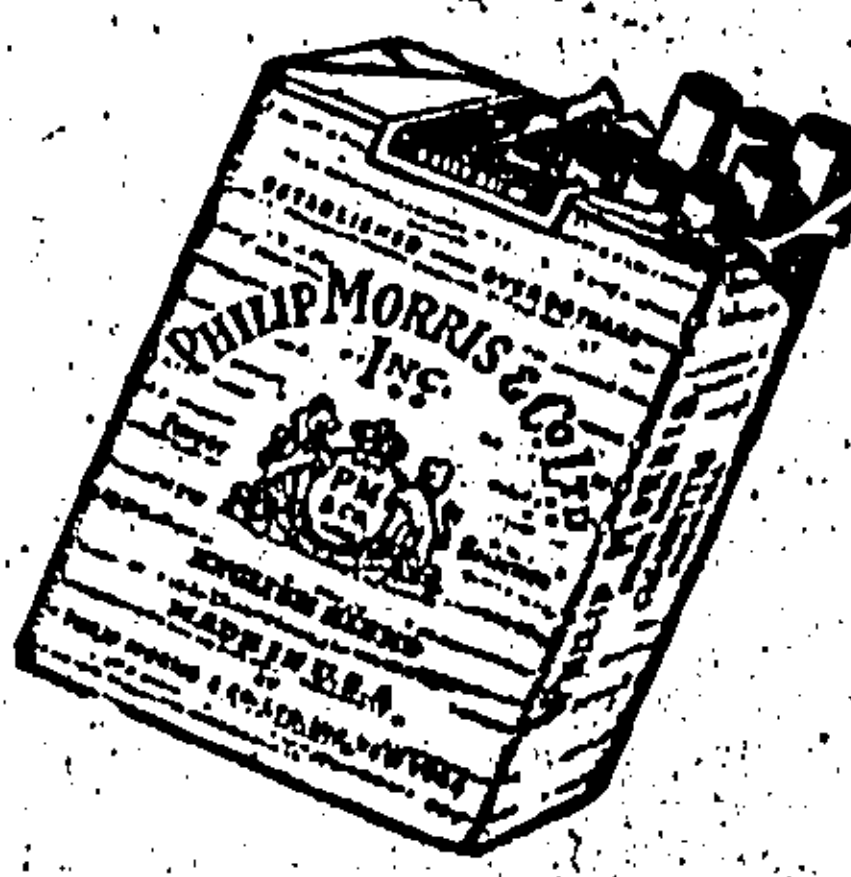
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Japan's Plan For Easy Terms.



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U.N.R.R.A. FAR EAST PROGRAMME

D.P.'s Ruled Over By "King Of The Jews"

Kai Tak Gold Bar Case

Another large seizure of gold was made by Revenue Officers at about 2 p.m. on Saturday at Kai Tak Airfield, when 93 bars were found on the person, and found on the person and luggage of two passengers of a TAA plane from Bangkok.

When Liu Shui-wan, 29, and Choi Wai-chuen, 30, both described as merchants and living 57 Connaught Road Central, first floor, as their Hong Kong address, appeared before Mr. W.A. Blair-Kerr charged with importing the gold without a permit, Mr. Maheu de Silva (representing the first accused) applied for a remand of three days.

The two men were arrested on Saturday, said Mr. Silva, and he only received instructions to defend them yesterday. In applying for either a remand of three days or a distant date for the hearing, Mr. Silva stated that he had not received full instructions and was, consequently, unable to instruct counsel to appear for the defence.

As Mr. Himmsworth was in possession of the gold bars, valued at approximately \$250,000, continued Mr. Silva, he was confident that the prosecution would have no objection to reducing the Police bail of \$10,000 to a nominal one of \$1,000 for each accused.

Mr. Eric Himmsworth, Superintendent of Imports and Exports, for the prosecution, stated that the gold had not yet been assayed but from the quantity seized he would estimate the value at the sum stated by Mr. Silva.

The first accused was found with 42 bars in his possession, while Choi had 51 bars.

When Mr. Peter H. Sin, for the second defendant, agreed to the remand, both accused were remanded for three days on \$1,000 bail each.

New Members For U.N.

Lake Success, N.Y., July 14. The United States will plump for the early admission of Austria and Italy to the United Nations but may oppose entry of the three Russian-Balkan satellites, authoritative sources said today.

A Security Council membership committee begins work tomorrow on nine bids including three previously voted by Russia.

The old applicants are Iceland, Portugal and Transjordan, which were blocked by Russia, and Albania and Outer Mongolia, which were voted down by the Council.

New ones are Italy, Austria, Hungary and Romania. Finland and Bulgaria also may apply in time for summer consideration.

The United States is considering opposing Hungary, Rumania and Albania by questioning whether they are peace-loving states and are willing and able to carry out the obligations of the Charter.

—Associated Press.

STAR HOTEL

SUPPER DANCE 7-30 P.M. to 12-30 A.M.

As from July 16th, admission to Supper Dance at the above Hotel will be restricted to ticket holders only. Tickets, which cost \$5 (Five Dollars) each, may be obtained at any time from the Reception Office and entitle the holder to a light supper, according to the daily menu. European, Russian and Chinese dishes will be available. (Chef ex Bala-laka.) A first class band will be in attendance.

Specimen Ticket.

STAR HOTEL

23-25 Nathan Road, Kowloon. Tel. 58921.

SUPPER DANCE, 7-30, 12-30 a.m.

This ticket entitles bearer to a meal to the value of \$3 (Three Dollars H.K.) and drinks to the value of \$2 (Two Dollars) H.K.

No exceptions will be made.

The Management reserve the right to refuse admission. N.B. No passouts given.

Tickets may be booked by telephone, but must be taken up by 7.30 p.m.

Hong Kong's Part In Scheme

The Far Eastern displaced-persons operations of UNRRA were formally transferred on July 1st to the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization of the United Nations, in line with the scheduled takeover by IRO of UNRRA's displaced-persons work all over the world.

The transfer concludes UNRRA's 20-month US\$5,922,000 Far Eastern displaced-persons programme by which more than 22,000 Chinese and European persons displaced by World War II have been returned by UNRRA to their pre-war homes.

The International Refugee Organization will carry on UNRRA's programme of repatriating to their former homelands persons displaced by World War II and of providing assistance prior to their departure. It is expected that it will also work of longer-range problems of resettlement for displaced persons who cannot be repatriated.

Within China, CNRRA has helped more than a million Chinese war victims to return to their pre-war homes by establishing refugee reception centres throughout the country, utilizing UNRRA food and medical supplies, and by assisting in obtaining road and river transport.

In the South China coastal cities of Canton, Swatow, Amoy and Fuchow, CNRRA and UNRRA workers have housed, processed and repatriated more than 21,000 overseas Chinese from China to their former homes in Malaya, Burma, Siam and Borneo, and about one thousand who returned to China from the countries of southeast Asia. In addition UNRRA, helping the Chinese government repatriate some 570 Chinese from Italy and Germany; more than 6,000 were brought back home from the Philippines and 700 from New Britain.

Hong Kong

Because of its position in South China, Hong Kong was chosen as the location for the Repatriation Branch Office. This office has handled all repatriation movements of overseas Chinese both in and out of China and with the aid of CNRRA had compiled complete statistics on displaced persons throughout China and South East Asia.

Hongkong has naturally become the dispersal Port for all incoming Displaced Persons movements, while the majority of the out-going Displaced Persons also passed through the port on the way to their pre-war homes.

The first group of displaced Chinese to be moved under sponsorship of the new International Refugee Organization left aboard the ss, "Pittjalekka" on July 8th for ports in the Netherlands East Indies. 160 overseas Chinese displaced since early in the war were brought from Amoy via Hong Kong on their way to their homes abroad.

Since February 1946, UNRRA has repatriated 1,332 European displaced persons to Europe. The final UNRRA Far Eastern repatriation operation for Europe is now under way. Approximately 900 persons are scheduled to sail on July 25 in the UNRRA-chartered "Marine Lynx" to Naples, from where they will be transported to their homes in all four German occupation zones, Austria, Poland and Czechoslovakia, accompanied by the UNRRA.

Mr. Sydney Ng Quinn, who appeared for the prosecution (assisted by DSI W. J. Wall), stated that the Attorney and Agent for the Monsanto Chemical Co., Mr. Wong Man-keung, was not pressing the charge and would request His Worship to deal leniently with the accused who was a man in somewhat poor circumstances.

The case, continued Mr. Ng Quinn, was brought more with the view of warning the public against such imitations than anything else. Complainant would be satisfied with an order for the destruction of the labels and whatever fine His Worship might impose.

Defendant, according to PCC Lee Leung, was arrested at 7.45 p.m. on June 29 at the K.C.R. Station after he had failed to find the friend who accompanied him down on the train. He had in his possession a large quantity of "Snecharin" Monsanto labels in a basket and when questioned stated that he brought them down for a friend in Canton.

After Mr. Wong Man-keung had given evidence of the goods having been on sale in the local market for the past 20 years or so, accused stated in the witness box that he came to Hong Kong last year from Annam. On June 24 last he went to Canton to visit some relatives and whilst there met a friend

panied all the way by escorting UNRRA personnel.

The previous largest European group left Shanghai in January this year in the ss, "Marice Facon," chartered by UNRRA to carry 860 displaced persons to Italy and Austria.

When the UNRRA China Office began its displaced persons operations in November 1945, thousands of persons who had fled Nazi oppression were interviewed and registered. The resulting statistics showed there were approximately 16,000 war-displaced persons in Shanghai that 11,000 hoped to be resettled in new lands, and that 3,500 wanted to be repatriated to the lands they had left because of war and persecution.

There were approximately 7,000 Germans, 4,000 Austrians and 1,700 Poles. The rest included Italians, Czechs and stateless persons.

"King Of The Jews"

These many thousands, most of whom arrived here in 1939, 1940 and 1941 were removed from the International Settlement by the Japanese early in 1942 and crowded into a virtual ghetto in the Hongkong section of Shanghai. Ruled over by a Japanese self-styled "King of the Jews," they were forced to live in over-crowded camps and dirty, dingy tenements.

During UNRRA's first active winter in Shanghai, the displaced persons division did much to comfort the refugees. Needy persons were given UNRRA flour, canned goods, clothing and medical supplies, and CNRRA supplied "Quonset" huts for shelter. UNRRA supplies were distributed to the refugees through the American Joint Distribution Committee.

The JDC, an American organization which cares for refugees scattered throughout the world, handles direct distribution of UNRRA foods to the refugees and provides general welfare services, including schools, and a hospital. In addition it assists refugees who desire to settle in new countries, and to date has helped more than 4,000 persons migrate to countries where they will make new homes.

Today, less than 10,000 European displaced persons remain in China, through the efforts of UNRRA and JDC.

Forged Monsanto Labels

"Candidly, I am inclined to take a very serious view of the case as imitations of any products containing medicaments are always liable of being dangerous to the public," declared Mr. W. H. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday when he imposed a fine of \$400 on Lai Kai, 27, broker, convicted on the charge of possession of forged "Monsanto" labels on June 29.

Mr. Sydney Ng Quinn, who appeared for the prosecution (assisted by DSI W. J. Wall), stated that the Attorney and Agent for the Monsanto Chemical Co., Mr. Wong Man-keung, was not pressing the charge and would request His Worship to deal leniently with the accused who was a man in somewhat poor circumstances.

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WAR MEMORIAL FUND

Subscriptions received to July 14:	
Mr. & Mrs. R.M. Wood	\$200.00
In memory of Mr. T. J. White, Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Read and Wanda	50.00
Sheung Yip Tung Chai	25.00
Kung Wai	25.00
Megars, F.S. Louie & Co.	20.00
Total	295.00
H.K. Govt. Contribution	295.00
Received to 12/7/47	1,005,701.86
Grand Total	\$1,605,291.86

Personalia

An official air mission of the Netherlands passed through Hong Kong on July 14th on its way home from Nanking, where the delegates had been negotiating with the Chinese Government. They left the same day for Manila. The delegates are travelling in a special plane of the Royal Netherlands Air Lines (K.L.M.).

Peninsula Hotel arrivals:—Capt. P.B. Heubner, Miss Lee Che, Mr. and Mrs. E.D.G. Hooper, Mrs. M. Etherington, Mrs. E. Murray, Miss Matheson, Raymond Hunt, Marian V. Dibbell, E.J. de la Rosa, A. Sewell, Jack M. Ellis, Miss M. Bishop, H.C. Sewell, E.T. McMullen, Mrs. A.R. and Miss T.A. Organ, Helen Thomson, D.M. Brabant and H.G. Mathison.

Peninsula departures:—D. Jacques, D. Nell, Mrs. E. Tan, W. Hamilton, D.A. Hegele, G.C. Hamilton, Jacques Roux, Dr. and Mrs. B. Waldron, J.C. Bauld, A. Angus, Miss Pearce, C.L. Wang, N.K. Dollard, Mr. and Mrs. H. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. George Fucrat, E.D. Durrant, J.M. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. R.C. Scott, Y.S. Long, D.A. Deshotel, F. Harden and M. Ezpeleta.

UNOFFICIAL POSTMEN

Four "unofficial postmen" were arrested at the K.C.R. Station during the week-end and were charged before Mr. W.H. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday.

Pang Wan-cheong, tailor, with 10 letters failed to answer to his name and had his bail of \$500 estimated. Pang Tan, mechanic, was fined \$20 for possession of six letters; Pang Luk-hop, \$50 for 15 letters; and Tsui Cheung, carpenter, \$40 for having eight letters. Inspector J. Orem prosecuted in all cases.

countries where they will make new homes.

Today, less than 10,000 European displaced persons remain in China, through the efforts of UNRRA and JDC.

Kowloon Vagrants Round-Up

In a round-up of vagrants in Kowloon by S/I Dow and a Police party on Saturday, a total of 56 men, women and children, aged from 75 years to 10, were taken in and appeared before the Kowloon Magistrates yesterday.

Of the 22 who appeared before Mr. Latimer, 21 were ordered to be expelled and the other, a 14-year-old girl, was remanded for 24 hours for further inquiries.

A lad of 14 was also ordered to be expelled when he pleaded guilty to the larceny of a pair of scales from a Police van. Inspector J. Orem, who prosecuted in all cases, said that the boy climbed on to a Police van during a hawkers' raid at Haiphong Road at about 10 a.m. on Sunday and stole the pair of scales from under the very noses of the Police. PCC 1119 saw the theft, jumped off the van, and arrested accused.

"You should be ashamed of yourselves to permit such an old woman to beg!" declared Mr. Blair-Kerr to two Chinese men and one woman, who claimed to be the relatives of 75-year-old Tse Kuen, charged with vagrancy.

S/I Howarth drew His Worship's attention to the fact that accused had been in the Colony for 40 years. On His Worship inquiring whether she had any relatives in the Colony, three Chinese stepped up from the public gallery. They said she was their "mother" (grandmother), and undertook to look after her in the future.

Two boys, also charged with vagrancy, were ordered to receive 12 strokes of the cane before being expelled. Thirty other vagrants were ordered to be sent out of the Colony for five years.

In Brief

Ho Tai-por, 56, widow, 8 Wing Fung Street West, first floor, was charged before Mr. F.X. d'Almada at Central Magistrate's yesterday for keeping a brothel at the same address. On her pleading guilty, she was fined \$250 and an order for eviction made.

Bail in the sum of \$100 was forfeited by Captain C. Thomas, CNRRA, when he failed to appear before Mr. Latimer to answer the charge of bringing a dog from Hong Kong to Kowloon on a "Star Ferry" launch on Sunday.

Pleading guilty to the possession of 2 1/2 bags of raw opium at the K.C.R. Station at 7.30 p.m. on July 12, Pang Hui was fined \$300 by Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday. R/O Carroll, prosecuting, revealed that the drug was found hidden in defendant's girdle.

As a result of a raid on a "lan tan" gambling school, a total of seven gamblers appeared in Central Court before Mr. Springall yesterday. The two keepers, Chaw Wo, 23-year-old coolie, and Yuen Tim, 50 year-old coolie, were fined \$300 or one month and \$200 or two weeks' hard labour respectively. The gamblers were each fined \$25, or five days.

Four-months imprisonment with hard labour and expulsion was the sentence given by Mr. F.X. d'Almada at Central Magistrate's yesterday when Chan Fong, 36, unemployed, was charged with another not in custody, with larceny from the person. The accused, nearing the Hong Kong Hotel, and with another man not in custody, picked the pocket of a Chinese and relieved him of \$5.40.

POP

"The man is as guilty as can be. There is no doubt in my mind about that. Here is a man dealing in drugs and having friends dealing in drugs who claims that he does not know the trade-mark of a produce that has been on sale in the markets for 20 years. He is convicted on the charge."

Today's Events

July 15—Rotary Club, 12.30 p.m. Speaker: Capt. Doust, RNVR "Salvage in War Time."

Coming Events

July 16—Wm. Powell, Ltd. annual meeting, noon.
August 7—HK & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. Ltd. annual meeting, noon.
August 12—HK & S'hal Hotels annual meeting, noon.

Big Price Paid For Land Plot

A residential plot of land, only 2,600 square-feet, in Yik Yam Street, Happy Valley, brought the Government \$82,100 yesterday at a public auction at the P.W.D.

The successful bidder was the Sang Kee Trading Company, 122 Queen's Road Central, represented by Mr. David Young.

Despite a record crowd of over 150 people, there was only a handful of bidders who gradually dropped out after the \$50,000 mark was reached.

The annual rental of the lot is \$120.

According to the conditions of sale, the owner will have to complete building within 18 months with a minimum expenditure of \$80,000.

FOOD AND FUEL COSTS

The Labour Officer announces that the food and fuel costs for the week ending July 12, 1947, were:—

Rice and Flour 7.2 cwt.	\$4.3100
Vegetables 1.9 "	3300
Salt Cabbages 2 "	2220
Oil 7 "	1710
Tea 2 "	3300
Salt Fish 3 "	3300
Fish 3 "	3520
Pork 3 "	3800
Firewood 10.0 "	3800
Bean Curd, 14 pieces	\$5.99
Total	\$11.8970

Pleading guilty to keeping a brothel at 59 Lockhart Road, third floor, Cheung Oi-hing was fined \$250 or one month imprisonment and an order for eviction was made by Mr. F.X. d'Almada at Central Magistrate's yesterday.

"Rascals" Forced Way Into Cinemas

Two rascals who specialised in hanging around theatres in the Shamshuipo district and who had so threatened theatre attendants that no report of their activities was made to the Police fell into the hands of S/I Wheeler on July 13.

On their appearance before Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr yesterday, Mr. Lui, 26, hawker, was fined a total of \$175, while Lo Yau, 30, piecegoods hawker, was fined \$250 (or two months' hard labour) and sentenced to another three months' hard labour.

The charges against both accused were evading payment of Entertainment Tax by entering the Ming Sing Theatre at 10.15 p.m. on July 12 without admission tickets and using threats and profane language to Chan Kwok-king, the manager of the theatre.

In evidence, Chan Kwok-king stated that at the material time he saw defendants, with another man not in custody, entering the theatre without purchasing tickets. On his asking them whether they had tickets they replied in the negative.

Although repeatedly requested to leave the theatre they refused to go and had to be forcibly removed, said Chan. While in the street, both defendants swore at him and the second accused invited him out to the street to be stabbed with a dagger. The dagger was carried by Lo in his girdle.

Soccer Star's Story Of Tortures

Li Wai-lam, local Chinese soccer player, testified at the trial of Sgt. Major Kamada Yasushi before No. 5 War Crimes Court yesterday, that when he refused to sign a prepared statement, petrol was poured over him and he was burnt.

Kamada is charged with committing a War Crime in that he, at Hong Kong, between June 1, 1945 and Aug. 31, 1945, was concerned in the ill-treatment of Li Wai-lam, Chang Kwan-woo, Ng Wai-shun, Ng Shing and other Chinese, resulting in the death of Ng Shing and five other unnamed Chinese and much bodily suffering to the other aforementioned Chinese.

Li Wai-lam said that he was arrested at about 10 a.m. on June 28, 1945, in the vicinity of the present War Crimes Court by Kamada and a number of other persons. He was taken to Shaui-kiwan Police Station, where he remained until 2 p.m. the same day, when he proceeded to Stanley Police Station by foot, accompanied by guards.

On the third day after his arrival at Stanley, he was interrogated by Kamada. He was asked if he were the Captain of a B.A.A.G. squad operating in the colony. Li said that he disclaimed any knowledge of the B.A.A.G., but admitted that he was the captain of a football team. Kamada then ordered him back to his cell and asked him to think matters over.

Li also testified regarding the interrogation of other prisoners by Kamada, some of whom died after such interrogation.

Li said that he was eventually taken back to Shaui-kiwan Police Station. Here, a 10-page statement (which had already been prepared) was read out to him by Kamada. Li said that when he was asked to sign this statement, he refused to do so. Kamada then went to sleep.

When he awoke, he ordered two Japanese guards to take Li away and give him the water torture. Li said that in spite of the torture, he continued to refuse to sign the statement. A threat was then made that if he persisted in his attitude, he would be burnt with petrol. Not long afterwards, Kamada came upon the scene. Li said that petrol was then poured on certain parts of his body and he was burnt.

Hearing of the case will be resumed at 10 a.m. today.

Bicycle Theft Case

The case in which Chan Kwai-hung, an 18-year-old girl, and her 13-year-old girl friend were charged before Mr. Blair-Kerr on June 16 with the larceny by bullock of two bicycles was recalled by Detective Inspector C.Y. Siu before the same Magistrate yesterday when he prosecuted another 16-year-old girl with the same offence.

In the previous case, said Det. Inspector Siu, Chan had the charge against her withdrawn as it was proved that she was, in reality, the guarantor for two girls. One of these girls was bound over in the sum of \$200 for six months, while the other girl (the present accused) was said to have absconded to Canton.

Police investigations revealed that the girl had not absconded to Canton but was in hiding in Kowloon the whole time, said Det. Insp. Siu.

Questioned, accused stated that she lent the bicycle to one "Hoi Chai" (Limp Fellow) Lee Sum who (declared Inspector Siu) is at present in Stanley serving a two-month sentence for the larceny of singlets.

The prosecuting officer applied for a three days remand in order that Lee Sum could appear in Court. Accused was remanded 72 hours in Salvation Army Home custody.

Reader's Letters

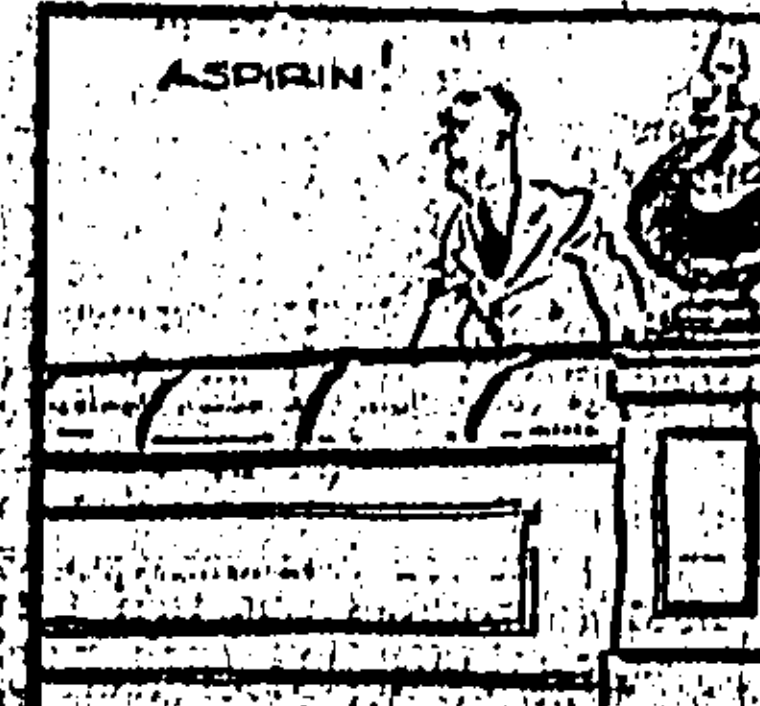
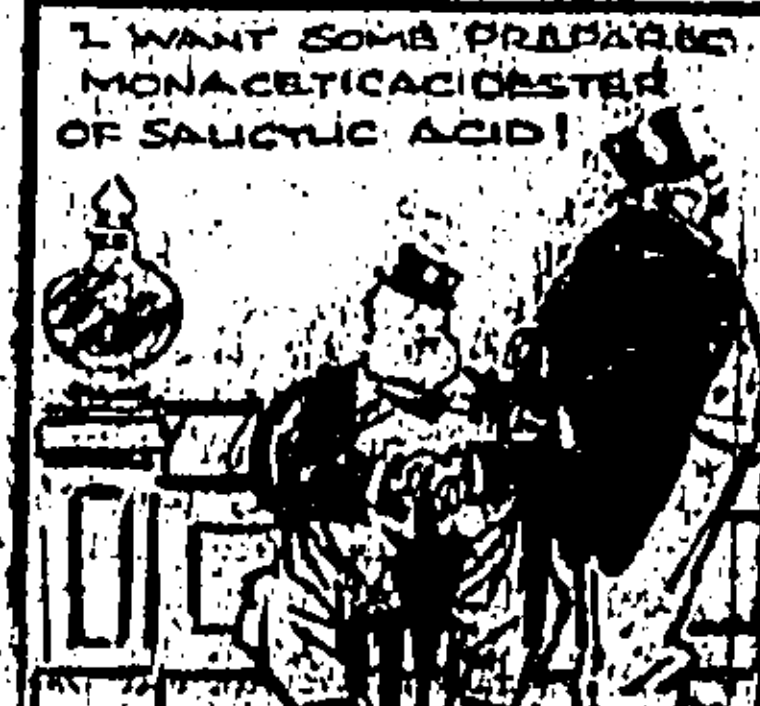
"Royalty"

Sir—A controversy arose in the Meas last evening re Prince Consorts and Prince Regents. My friends and I debated about them for over an hour and even then did not reach any satisfactory agreement. We are now hoping to solve our problem through the medium of your paper.

a. Does a Prince Consort undergo the Coronation Ceremony in the event of the Heir Presumptive ascending the throne?

b. What form of oath does the Prince Regent take on taking office?

ARGUMENTATIVE



A Struggle For Recovery

Paris Delegates Set Up The Machinery

Another Appeal To Soviet Russia

Paris, July 13. A solid Western bloc pledged to a joint recovery struggle under the Marshall Plan for dollar aid to Europe was firmly established under Anglo-French leadership here tonight.

Admitting unanimously the need for swift action, delegates of 16 nations of all Europe outside the Soviet sphere in two working days set up machinery for a common recovery programme which Russia and her satellites boycotted.

Though they had little hope of acceptance, the Western nations appealed again to those under Soviet control to join them and promised that the door would remain open.

Tonight they appeared every indication that the European Economic Cooperation conference would wind up its work successfully by Tuesday night, leaving a well-oiled machine at Paris to carry on the much harder job of drawing up a joint relief programme.

The conference held a second plenary session of an hour and 15 minutes this afternoon and adjourned until Tuesday, when it will approve the final details of machinery to be planned by the working committee, on which all 16 nations are represented.

Alphand Report

The general framework of the machinery was approved unanimously at today's meeting in a report by its chairman, Herve Alphand, Economic Director of the French Foreign Office.

The report opened with a statement recognizing the urgency of European economic reconstruction and the help which could be obtained under the Marshall Plan. It said:

"The conference considers that Europe should be the first to help itself by developing its production of essentials. The assistance of the United States would be decisive in enabling it to pursue these efforts and in contributing resources and first. This would provide the best means of ensuring the economic revival of European countries. Such a revival would be a safeguard of their independence."

"To gather the information necessary for drawing up a programme comprising European availabilities and requirements as soon as possible, it is proposed to set up a special temporary organization. All European states are at liberty to co-operation in the task of this organization. The organization shall not intervene in the internal affairs of these states. No action shall be taken by the organization which might be regarded as a violation of their sovereignty. There shall be no restriction to the beneficial development of European trade."

Insistence On Guarantees

M. Alphand, in presenting his report, disclosed that it was the smaller nations, including Belgium, the Netherlands, the Scandinavian countries and Turkey which insisted on the inclusion of these three latter guarantees, which were in many ways a reply to Soviet charges that nations participating in the Plan would lose sovereignty and independence.

The new organization, approved in near-complete form, provides:

1. A cooperation committee of all 16 participating powers. At the request of several smaller nations, it will be as flexible as possible and will have the right to modify its own set-up. It will take over where the present conference leaves off.

2. An executive committee composed of a number of states still to be agreed on, to help the main committee in its day-to-day work.

"JANE"



EARTH TREMORS

New Delhi, July 13. Ten more earthquake shocks have been felt in the town of Bhudarwa, in Kashmir, during the last 24 hours, bringing the number of shocks during the last four days to 78.

Almost all houses in the town are reported cracked, but there has been no loss of life.—Reuter.

USA NOT IN THE NEWS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Pretoria, July 13. A check-up of South African newspapers and periodicals during the past two weeks shows a marked falling off in news from the United States since the United States Information Service was closed at the end of last month.

These publications now depend entirely on the South African Press Association and the British news agencies which, in the nature of things, cannot give such a blanket coverage as did the United States Information Service, running some weeks to 40,000 words.

The reduction of coverage is especially noticeable in the economic and financial fields. The United States Information Service's text reports of outstanding pronouncements made in the United States also were appreciated by news editors.

Newspaper and educational circles express a hope that the American Information Libraries in Capetown and Johannesburg may not be lost entire to South Africa. They aggregate 10,000 volumes, presenting every aspect of American endeavour. Both libraries were much used by researchers and students. Instructions are also awaited as to the disposal of 450 negative films.—Reuter.

Refuses To Eat As Protest

Belgrade, July 13.

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug, which recently reported the arrest of a Captain Kosta Kildarda, said to be a member of the Yugoslav War Crimes Commission, today said that the British military authorities in Vienna had freed him.

The agency reported him as saying, on his release, that he had refused to take food as a sign of protest "because the British authorities refused to tell him the reasons for his arrest."

It was alleged that he was ill-treated by British soldiers when under detention.—Reuter.

Auriol's Appeal To French People

Arras, July 13.

The French President, M. Vincent Auriol, today appealed to the French people to subordinate social and political differences to the interest of the nation as a whole and to its efforts towards recovery.

Speaking here on an official tour of the Northern France area, President Auriol called for a reawakening of civil consciousness in France.

"Civic spirit means, among many other things, subordination of private or corporate interests to public welfare and to the permanent interests of the Republic."

Ernest Bevin, at the latter's hotel, it is understood the chief purpose of his visit was to press Italian claims that technical sub-committees should be increased to five.

This afternoon's meeting, presided over by Mr. Bevin, again took place in public in the ornate dining room of the Quai d'Orsay.—United Press.

Laws Passed By "Guillotine"

Budapest, July 13.

Hungarian party leaders agreed at a week-end conference on a compromise legislative programme under which Parliament will meet this week, probably on Wednesday, to pass a new electoral law and a law for the nationalisation of banks by "guillotine" procedure.

This means that the bills will be disposed of in an eight-hour session each.

After voting these bills, Parliament will be suspended until the elections in September.

Father Stephen Baloch, recently deprived of offices of General Secretary of the Smallholders' Party and Under-Secretary of the Premier's Office, has received a permit from the Allied Control Council in Hungary to form a new party to be called the Hungarian Independent Democrat Party.

It is hoped that the party will be able to take part in the September elections.—Reuter.

Prague, July 13.

Twenty-five people were killed at least, 60 miles north of Prague, today, when a loaded tramcar fell down a hill crashed into another stationary tramcar.—Reuter.

21 DEAD IN AIR CRASH

Melbourne, Florida, July 13.

Twenty-one persons, including 19 Puerto Ricans homeward bound from the United States, were killed and 14 injured today when their chartered DC-3 airliner crashed into a jungle swamp six miles short of the landing field at Melbourne.

The time of the crash was tentatively fixed at around 4 a.m., nearly three hours after the ship took off from a refuelling stop at Augusta, Georgia.

Nine women, eight men and four children between the ages of two and five years were killed. Fourteen others were injured. Ten of the injured were reported in either serious or critical condition at a Melbourne hospital. A five-year-old child, Ellen Zeevedo, almost miraculously escaped injury; she was released from hospital after doctors gave her a look-over. The pilot and co-pilot were killed.

The cause of the tragedy was not known, but investigators of the Civil Aeronautics Administration flew to the scene. A spokesman said the plane might have been "overloaded" but added that the decision on this would depend on the gas load and seating complements.

In Swamp

The plane was operated by the Burke Air Lines Charter Service. It took off yesterday (Saturday) from Newark, New Jersey, airport for San Juan. A Florida State highway patrolman who waded into the swamp gave one of the first accounts of the crash scene. He said the plane swooped low over the swamp and ripped the top off three pine trees before plunging into the swamp. Wreckage was scattered for hundreds of feet through the undergrowth and later was reached by a rescue party riding heavy four-wheel drive Army trucks and the kind of "water buggies" used during jungle fighting in the Pacific campaign.

Patrolman Karl Adams said: "We took three bodies and three of the injured out of the body of the plane. The rest of them—dead and injured—were scattered along the soggy ground along with parts of the plane. One of the children was cut in two. Half the head of one of the men was off. It happened at 4.30 a.m."

Big Explosion

Victor Duddas, who lives near there, said he heard a plane with its motors in trouble, then a tremendous explosion. He called us and had the spot located by a plane we sent up.

"It took us two hours to get to it through a mile of water and brush. The water was six to eight inches deep where the plane hit and skidded."

The dead and injured were evacuated hours later in heavy four-wheel-drive trucks, rushed to the scene from the Banana River naval air station.—United Press.

Visit To Bulgaria

Sofia, July 13.

A Rumanian Government delegation, led by Premier M. Petro Groza, arrived in Sofia today on a four-day visit to the Bulgarian Ministers. The Rumanians were warmly welcomed at the station by the Bulgarian Premier, Dr. George Dimitroff, Cabinet Ministers, foreign diplomats and thousands of citizens.

In a short broadcast, M. Groza emphasized that both countries would live in peace, in the closest political and economic collaboration and reciprocity.

The two Premiers drove in one car to the building of the Bulgarian Cabinet, passing through streets densely lined with cheering crowds. All buildings in Sofia were decorated with the Rumanian and Bulgarian flags.—Reuter.

Communal Violence

Lahore, July 13.

All available fire engines were called to disperse a mob of about 500 persons who tonight after a fresh outbreak of communal violence.

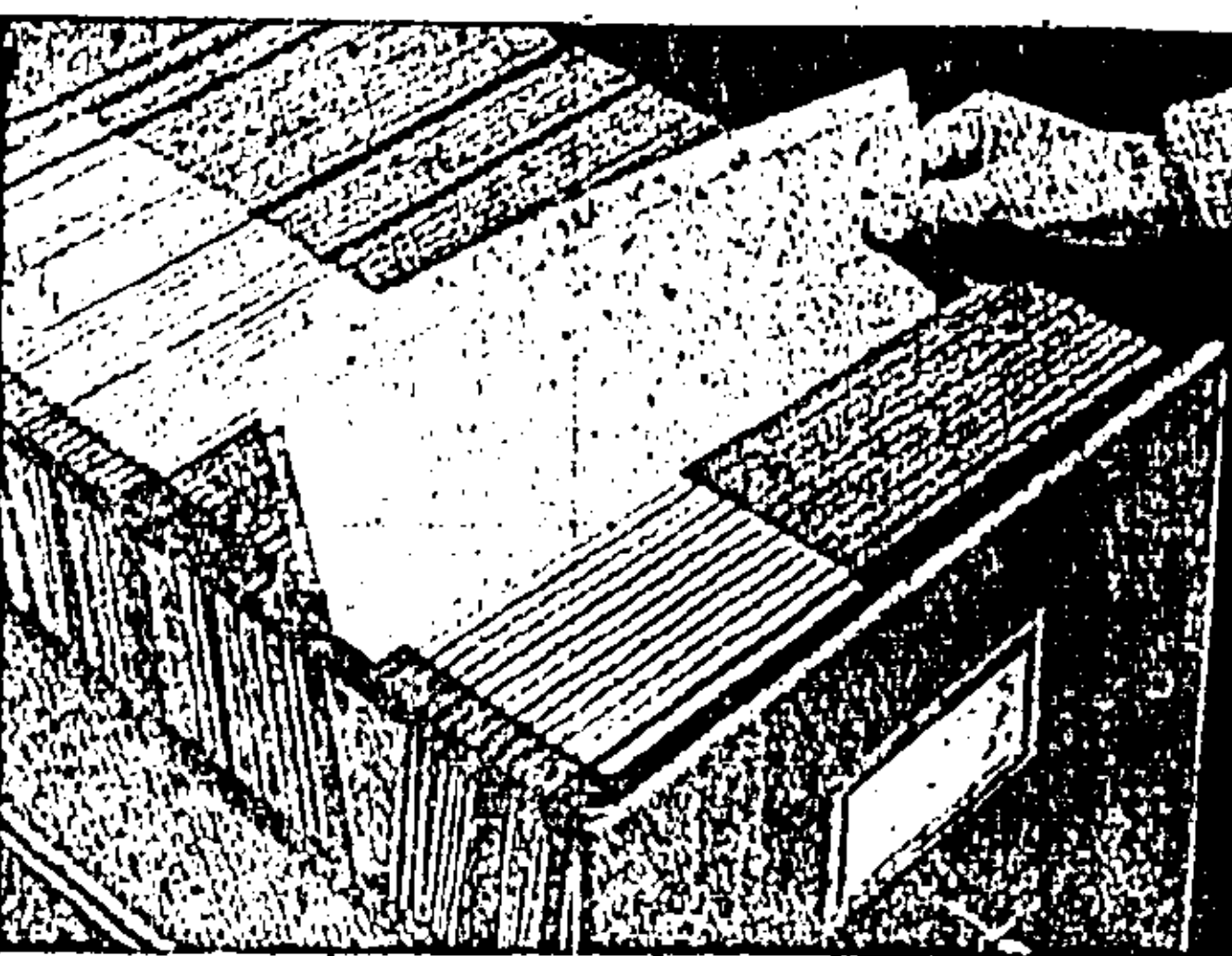
Police fired to disperse Moslem, Hindu and Sikh crowds threatening each other amid blazing houses inside the Mohi Gate after two bombs had burst in a Moslem locality.

It was estimated that over 20 fires were burning. Casualty reports were not yet available tonight.—Reuter.

London, July 13. Mr. John Winant, former United States Ambassador to Britain, arrived at London airport by plane today from New York. Mr. Winant declined to make a statement.—United Press.

RONEO

SUSPENDED FILING SYSTEM
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NEAT & TIDY



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The second, that the framework or cradle from which the folders are suspended drops straight into any ordinary quarto or foolscap filing drawer, so that its installation entails no scrapping of present filing cabinets and consequently no needless expense.

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Things to watch IN CHOOSING SUN GLASSES

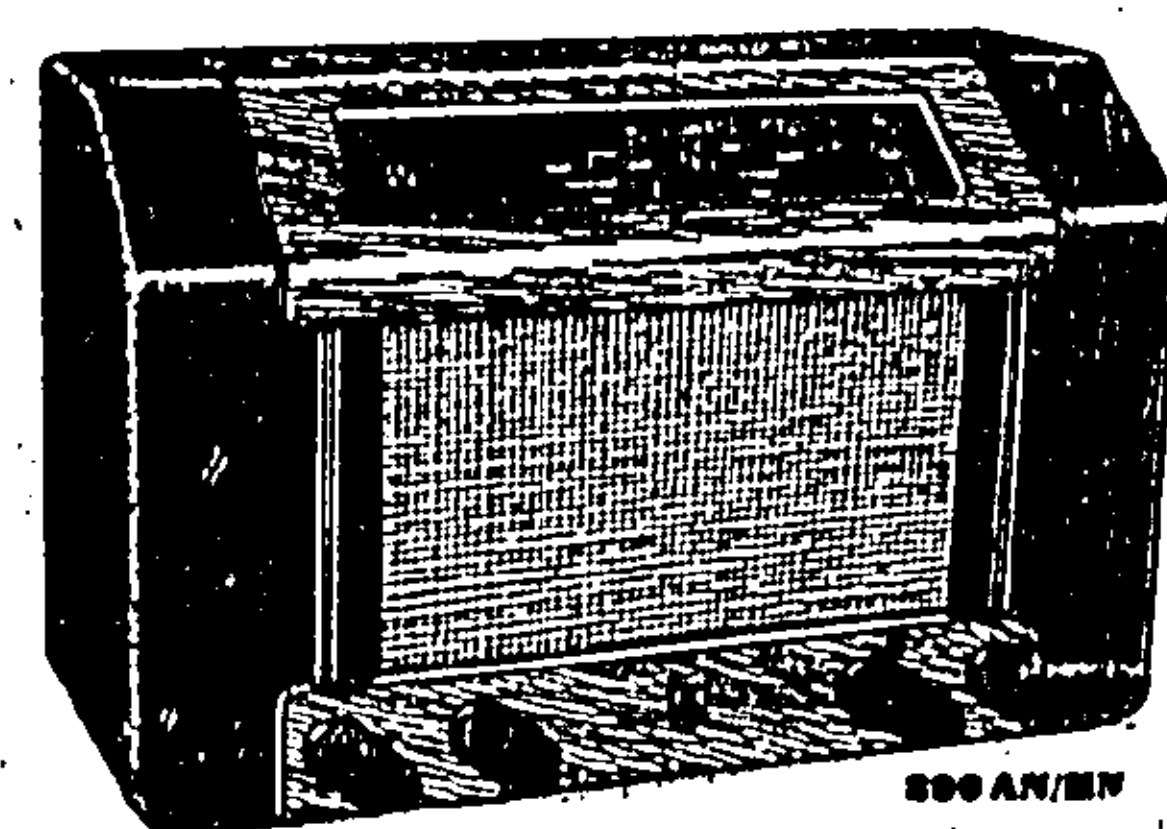
- Lenses scientifically made, specially formulated to absorb infra-red rays.
- Smartly designed frames to give you unobstructed vision and perfect comfort.

Purchase Your Sun Glasses From

Chinese Optical Co.

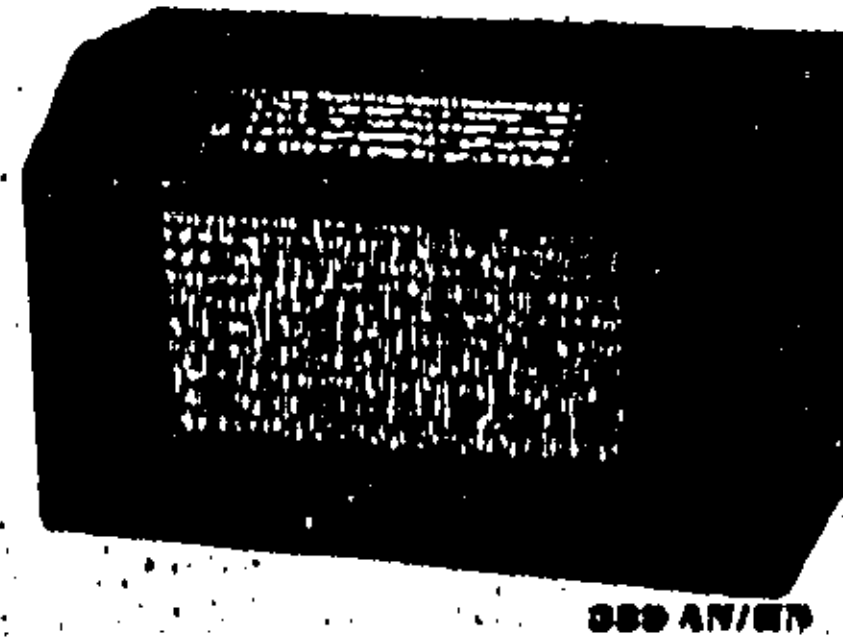
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WANTED: Translator or transla-
tors from French into English
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Part-time job. Handsome re-
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Lane Crawford's. Tel. 33161.

NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG

PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS OF
OSCAR EAGER late
of Victoria in the
Colony of Hongkong,
Company manager, de-
ceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the Court has by virtue of
Section 58 of the Probates
Ordinance, 1897, made an Order
limiting the time for creditors
and others to send in their claims
against the above estate to the
8th day of August 1947.

All creditors and others are
accordingly hereby required to
send their claims to the under-
signed on or before that date.

Dated the 11th day of July,
1947.

DEACONS,

Solicitors for the Executors,
Princess's Building,
HONG KONG.

PUBLIC AUCTION

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISPOSALS FAR
EASTERN AREA (M. O. S.) Messrs. Lammert Brothers of
Pedder Building, Hong Kong, have received instructions to sell
by Auction at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building — Basement,
at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, the 16th day of July 1947:—

SMALL-CRAFT AND MACHINERY

LOCATED AT H.M. NAVAL DOCKYARD, KOWLOON
Pulling Dinghies, Trawler Boat, Whaler, Fast Motor Boats,
L. C. A., Diving Boat, Sailing Dinghies and Harbour
Defence Motor Launches

LOCATED AT IRON POUND H.M. NAVAL DOCKYARD,
HONG KONG
Whaler

LOCATED AT MACKIES WHARF, NORTH POINT
Motor Pinnace

LOCATED AT TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING CO.,
LTD., QUARRY BAY
Diving Boat and Life Boats

LOCATED AT EAST SIDE OF DRY DOCK H.M. DOCK-
YARD, HONG KONG
Winches

LOCATED AT OLD SUB-ORDNANCE DEPOT, QUEEN'S RD.
(OPPOSITE H. M. S. "TAMAR")
Laurence Scott Generators

LOCATED AT NO. 7 STORE COMPOUND, H. M. DOCK-
YARD, HONG KONG
Pipe Bending Machines and Spare Gear

LOCATED AT C. E. FACTORY, H. M. DOCKYARD, HONG
KONG
Circular Saw Bench, Universal Gear Hobbing Machine
and Vertical Drilling Machine

Permits to view, Catalogues, Special Conditions of Sale etc. may
be obtained from Messrs. Lammert Brothers

Inspection of Craft and Machinery at above mentioned Locations
can be made between 9.30 a.m. and 12 noon and between 2.00
p.m. and 4.00 p.m. on the 14th and 16th July 1947.

Terms: 50% of the Purchase Money to be paid on the Fall
of the Hammer and the Balance to be paid on Thursday, the
17th July 1947.

WALTER M. WEINBERGER,
CHAIRMAN,
BRITISH STORES DISPOSAL BOARD,
(HONG KONG)

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that an Interim Divi-
dend of \$2.0.0. per share (net
after deduction of Hong Kong
Corporation Profits Tax) has
been declared in respect of the
year ending 31st December
1947, at a rate of 1/2 27/32d.
per Dollar.

THIS DIVIDEND WILL BE
PAYABLE on and after
MONDAY 11th August at the
offices of the Corporation, where
Shareholders are requested to
apply for Warrants.

THE REGISTER OF
SHARES of the Corporation
will be closed from MONDAY
28th July to SATURDAY 9th
August (both days inclusive)
during which period no transfer
of Shares can be registered.

BY ORDER OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

A. MORSE,
Chief Manager

Hong Kong, 8th July, 1947.

UNION WATERBOAT COMPANY LIMITED.

Shareholders are notified that
new Share Certificates are ready
and may be had on application,
at the Company's offices, 3rd
floor, Union Building.

DODWELL & CO., LTD.
General Managers.

Hong Kong, 11th July 1947.

COSMO CLUB

Members are reminded that the
Dance to inaugurate the new
"Members' Club" will be held
on Wednesday, 16th July at
9.30 p.m. An orchestra has
been engaged. Members are re-
quested to telephone the Club
Steward regarding the number
of guests whom they wish to
invite. A light supper will be
served later in the evening.
There will be no charges, but
reservations must be made.

THE COMMITTEE

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and Appraisers.
Pedder Building,
Telephone No. 20224.

MIDWAY BATTLE WAS FOUGHT BY PEARL HARBOUR CABLE

Washington, July 13.

The Navy revealed for the first time today that the
United States victory in the battle of Midway
Island—the turning point in the Pacific War—
was directed by an underwater cable from
Pearl Harbour.

Admiral Chester Nimitz, then Commander-in-
Chief of the Pacific Fleet, personally directed
the American forces from a cablehead 1,100
miles away.

The disclosure came as Rear-
Admiral Roscoe F. Good, then
Admiral Nimitz' Assistant Opera-
tions Officer, published secret
Japanese reports of the battle.
The documents showed the Japan-
ese lost the battle because of the
following major mistakes:

(1) They thought their plan
of attack was a surprise where-
as the U.S. Navy had cracked the
Japanese code and knew all their
plans.

(2) They failed to inform
their command until nine hours
later that they had lost four of
their first line carriers.

(3) They under-estimated
American strength, believing the
Americans had no carriers in the
area whereas the U.S.
Fleet had three big ones—the
Enterprise, Hornet and York-
town.

Deceived Tokyo

The Japanese also deceived
their command by reporting the
loss of only 38 planes whereas
they lost 275 in the three-day
battle.

Admiral Good said a Japanese
victory at Midway might have
prolonged the war 10 years.

He said Admiral Nimitz was
forced to direct the battle by
cable from Pearl Harbour be-
cause two United States task
forces steaming to the battle kept
their long-range radios silent for
fear of being discovered. "The
ships communicated all informa-
tion by short range radio to a
central clearing station on Mid-
way Island. This information was
dispatched by cable to Nimitz at
Pearl Harbour. There Admiral
Nimitz pieced it together and sent
orders back to the ships. United
Press.

Prison Is Like Health Resort

Moscow, July 13.
The United States prison
camp at Darmstadt, which
houses 12,000 Nazis, is more
like "a sanatorium or a health
resort" than prison, according
to a report by a Soviet jour-
nalist in the Communist Party
paper Pravda.

A party of Russian journalists
recently visited the camp, which
is in the United States occupa-
tion zone.

The Pravda man claimed
that the internees looked "like
well-fed middleweight boxers",
receiving more food than or-
dinary Germans, and were
allowed a total of 12 and a half
pounds of food parcels every
month.

The report also alleged that
"only those work who want to"
and that the Russian party was
met by "crowds of idle, finely
tanned men in shorts and light-
weight suits".—Reuter.

Shaving At Barber's Was Once Frowned On

Chicago, July 13.
Times must have changed
since 1856—especially employ-
ment policies.

At a meeting of the Tri-State
Hospital Assembly, Gene R.
Powers, personnel director of
the Young Men's Christian As-
sociation, hotel department,
quoted the following excerpt
from the Employees Handbook of
Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co., dated
1856:

"The employee who is in the
habit of smoking Spanish cigars,
being shaved at the barber's or
going to dances and other places
of amusement, will surely give
his employer reason to be sus-
picious of his integrity and
honesty."

"Each employee must pay not
less than \$5 per year to the
church and must attend Sunday
school regularly."

"Men employees are given one
evening a week for courting,
and two if they go to prayer
meetings."

The manual said that after 14
hours of work in the store, leis-
ure time should be spent in
reading.—United Press.

Los Angeles Once Part Of Utah

Salt Lake City, July 13.
The Los Angeles Chamber of
Commerce isn't going to like
this. But it's still true.

It seems that Los Angeles,
"Queen City" of Southern Cali-
fornia, was a part of Utah once.
Or to be more exact, part of the
state which preceded Utah.

A map released by the Utah
State Historical Society shows
the lines of the old Provisional
State of Deseret, founded by
Brigham Young in 1849. The
state flourished until 1861.

The State of Deseret embrac-
ed all of Utah, most of Nevada,
a strip of California which in-
cluded the present location of
Los Angeles, most of Arizona,
and parts of New Mexico, Colo-
rado, Idaho and Oregon.

The State of Deseret was bro-
ken up by the federal govern-
ment in 1861 into the territory
of Utah, which in turn was
broken up to create the states
of Utah and Nevada.—United
Press.

TYPHOID EPIDEMIC

Rome, July 13.
Officials warned Romans today
to boil water and not to eat ice
cream in an effort to check the
spread of a minor typhoid
epidemic which has caused
several deaths.

The authorities said that many
typhoid cases have been reported
in the capital's suburbs but that
the outbreak has not reached
epidemic proportions.—United
Press.

MAGDA LUPESCU

Rio de Janeiro, July 13.
Madame Magdy Lupescu,
who was married a week ago
on her sick bed to ex-king
Carol of Rumania, was great-
ly improved today, and Carol's
secretary said that "for the
first time in 10 days" there is
real hope that she will re-
cover."

Madame Lupescu—or
Helena, Princess of Rumania,
as she is now called by her
entourage—is suffering from
pernicious anaemia.

On Friday the chance of
saving her life were stated to
have diminished after a shock
to her system caused by a
blood transfusion.—Reuter.

Tension In Syria

Damascus, July 13.
Many are reported to have been
killed and wounded in Damascus,
the capital, and other parts of
Syria, following tension arising
out of the Syrian elections held
last Monday.

In the Djebel Druze frontier
area, where elections are due to
take place on Thursday, a "grave
situation" is reported between two
tribes in the region.

Two were reported killed and
many injured during Syria's first
Parliamentary election by adult
suffrage last Monday, when the
electoral division appeared to be
between religion and politics—
Moslem candidates on the one
hand and Governmental or Pro-
gressive Party candidates on the
other.—Reuter.

Austria Drawn Into Maelstrom

Vienna, July 13.
Austria is "threatened with being drawn unwill-
ingly into a maelstrom of conflicting inter-
ests," Dr. Oscar Helmer, Minister for the In-
terior, said today.

He told a Socialist confer-
ence at Horn, southern Austria,
that the country had hoped that
"all great powers would take
part in the Paris aid confer-
ence but the Soviet Union went
on its own way and states un-
der Soviet influence refused the
invitation."

This refusal had made the
opposition between east and
west even more obvious and the
problem for Austria to secure
a state treaty was even more
difficult.

The Austrian Government did
not wish to bind Austria polit-
ically to the west or to the
east but wished to accept every
help offered for the rebuilding
of the country.

Dr. Helmer warned the peo-
ple against believing the rum-
ours that the Austrian Govern-
ment was preparing to move
from Vienna to Salzburg (in
the United States zone).

Such rumours were spread by
people wishing to profit from
the uncertainty and fear thus
created, he said.—Reuter.

Voice Of The Turtle

London, July 14.
"The Voice of the Turtle," the three character sex
comedy that ran four years on Broadway and
fetched some \$300,000 from Hollywood, shock-
ed the daylight out of London's more digni-
fied drama critics on Sunday—but the com-
mon people loved it.

Russians Helping Communists?

London, July 12.
There is no doubt that the
Russians have been helping the
Communists to establish them-
selves in Manchuria since
General George C. Marshall
left China five months ago,"
says a "Manchester Evening
News" editorial commenting on
China's civil war.

The Communist menace has
increased enormously in the
past six months. In Manchuria,
the Communists are believed to
occupy four-fifths of the coun-
try and from there through
Dairen and Port Arthur, still
held by the Russians in defiance
of the Sino-Russian treaty, the
Communists pour reinforcements
into North China.—Can-
teral News.

With A Hey Nanny, And A Hodja!

London, July 13.
General Enver Hodja, Prime Minister of Albania,
today declared that Albania had documentary
proof that the British and United States re-
presentatives in Albania had been espionage
agents and had prepared an armed revolution
to overthrow the present regime, Tirana radio
reported.

General Hodja, who was ad-
dressing the opening session of
the Albanian Parliament, stated
that the British themselves
might have laid the mines
which damaged their destroy-
ers last October, the radio ad-
ded.

Condemning the "unfair and
dishonest" foreign policy of
Britain and the United States,
General Hodja declared: "The
reason for it is the dislike of
the British and Americans for
the democratic progress of the
Albanian People's Republic."

"If Albania had been ruled by
Fascists, they would certainly
have been recognised by Bri-
tain and America."

(There have been no British
representatives in Albania since
the withdrawal of the British
military mission last April).

General Hodja declared that
Greece, supported by Britain
and America, was not only a
danger to peace in the Balkans,
but could easily become a dan-
ger to world peace.

Calling on the Albanian peo-
ple and the people of the world
to rally round the Soviet Union,
General Hodja declared that Al-
bania had refused the Anglo-
French invitation to the Paris
conference on the Marshall of-
fence because she doubted the
sincerity of help from the Uni-
ted States.—Reuter.

Elizabeth Takes The Salute

London, July 13.
Cheered by 50,000 peo-
ple, Princess Elizabeth,
in the uniform of Chief
Ranger of the British
Empire, today took the
salute at a march past of
2,000 girl guides from all
over Europe and the
United States in Pall
Mall.

Leaders of delegations sent
from Belgium, Czechoslovakia,
Denmark, France, Holland,
Switzerland and the United
States were presented to the
Princess.

The occasion was the opening
of the Scout and Guide Inter-
national Folk Dance festival,
which will last until July 19.

Lady Baden-Powell, World
Chief Guide, who stood on the
saluting base with the two
Princesses (Princess Margaret
accompanied Princess Eliza-
beth), congratulated the Prin-
cess on her engagement to
Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten
on behalf of Guides throughout
the world.

The American Guides in
green, the Czechs in battle-dress
khaki, and the Swiss wearing
blue, with bright red and white
ties, were especially cheered by
the crowds.

Princess Elizabeth was ap-
pointed Chief Ranger just be-
fore she left on the Royal Tour
of South Africa.—Reuter.

TO JOIN PAKISTAN

New Delhi, July 13.
The Sylhet district of Assam
today voted to join Pakistan by
a majority of 55,578, an an-
nouncement from the Viceroy's
residence said tonight.

The Sylhet district, on the
borders of Bengal, covers 5,388
square miles and had a popula-
tion pre-war of nearly 2,600,000.
—Reuter.

Mystery Franco Moves

Gibraltar, July 13.
Following reports in
Madrid that General
Franco might meet "an
important foreign states-
man" at a rendezvous in
the Mediterranean, a
story was circulating in
Gibraltar today that
General Franco and
some of his personal
staff, had been seen
boarding a ship anchor-
ed off Malaga, in South-
ern Spain.

Reports of the meeting were
not taken seriously in Madrid,
where it is known that General
Franco is on holiday in Mar-
bella, near Malaga, and it was
stated there that the General's
yacht is anchored in Malaga
harbour.

A motorist, who has just re-
turned to Gibraltar from Mal-
aga, stated that a powerful car,
heavily escorted, arrived in the
vicinity of Marbella a few days
ago.

A number of the occupants of
the car alighted and walked to-
wards the beach where they
boarded a waiting speedboat
which dashed out to sea, to-
wards a ship which appeared to
be anchored between eight and
10 miles between Malaga and
Gibraltar.

The roads were heavily
guarded that day, the motorist
said.

Other reports reaching
Gibraltar, from Tangier said
that General Franco intended to
visit Spanish Morocco next
week.—Reuter.

N. Africa "Struggle For Freedom"

Jaffa, July 13.
Abd El Khalq Tarrif, leader
of the Moroccan Reform Party,
told 2,600 Arabs at a "Youth
Congress" here today that North
Africa was on the verge of "a
struggle for freedom—the first
stage of which will be diplo-
matic."

The Reform Party leader is
now living in exile in Egypt.
Most of his audience today
were members of the Arab de-
fence and youth organisations in
Palestine, Napadda and Futuwa,
which are now under a unified
command.

The Congress—the second big
Arab demonstration in Palestine
within a week—reaffirmed its
loyalty to Haj Amin El Hussein,
the Mufti of Jerusalem.

It also sent "brotherly greet-
ings" to Abd El Krim, the Moroccan
rebel leader, now living in
Egypt after his escape from
French custody on his return from
exile in Reunion Island.—Reuter.

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BOWEN ROAD COURT MARTIAL

R.E. Major On Four Charges

At an Army Court Martial held at the British Military Hospital yesterday, Major G. B. Falconar, R. E., pleaded guilty to four charges of unlawfully disposing of public property between October 11 and November 30, 1946.

After hearing witnesses for the defence and a statement by accused, through his defending officer, the Court adjourned for consideration of sentence, which will be announced later after confirmation.

Accused was charged with the following offences:—

(a) While on active service, was concerned in the distribution of public property, fraudulently misappropriating the same, in that he, on October 11, 1946, when a staff officer of the R.E. Electrical and Mechanical Headquarters, Land Forces, was concerned in the distribution from the Engineers Supply Base Depot, sold a Westinghouse Generating set consisting of an electrical generator and a caterpillar Diesel engine, part of the same plant, to Yip Kam-sai, with intent to defraud.

(b) Between November 1 and 30, 1946, sold a Cummins Diesel engine valued at \$8,000, with intent to defraud.

(c) On or about November 8, 1946, delivered a Rogers generating set to Leming Man-kwong, a person not entitled to receive it, with intent to defraud.

(d) Between November 1 and 30, 1946, delivered a Walscha Nesselmann pump engine, part of the said plant, to Kwok Hin-yang, with intent to defraud.

Witnesses For Defence

The court was composed of Brigadier G. I. V. Jones C.B.E. (President); Lieut. Col. H. A. Borsdale, D.S.O.; Major E.H. Sterling, M.C.; Major T.W. Gracey; Major D.W.D. Barnes, M.C.; Major P.K. Pyne; and Major E.F. Bellamy-Brown.

The Judge Advocate was Major Gul Rehman. The prosecuting officer was Major R.C. Lai and the accused was defended by Major J.T. Loranger.

After accused had pleaded to the charges, a summary of the evidence was read. Asked if he wished to make a statement, Major Loranger (on behalf of accused) said he would do so after evidence had been called. Major Loranger told the court that he had witnesses who would speak to the character of the accused.

The first witness was Lt. Col. M.C.D.L. Reynold, G.S.O. 1, who said that he knew accused from June, 1946, till his departure for Singapore early in 1947. It was part of his job to know the work of accused and it had come to his knowledge that accused was undertaking a duty greatly in excess of the

normal duty required by any officer.

Outstanding Work

Accused, at great risk to himself, undertook bomb disposal work not only in the Army but for the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. The arrival of the married families in Stanley was an occasion for accused to make quite unusual tests to assure that there was an adequate supply of water for them. The reports which witnesses received impressed him greatly and he had Falconar's name forwarded for an award; this recommendation was accepted. His work was outstanding.

Major Rodwell said that he knew of the recommendation for an award for accused put forward this year by Major-General Festing and produced a copy of it to the court. The citation stated that between September, 1945, and Nov. 1946, except for a short period, accused was responsible for bomb disposal in Hongkong and in that time he disposed of 150 bombs, 1,000 lb. of high explosives and a number of sea mines without mishap.

He and his crew had no proper apparatus during much of the time and carried out the dangerous task with great efficiency in addition to their other duties.

Capacity For Work

The next witness, Major F.F. Martin, said that he had lived with accused since his arrival in Hongkong and also worked with him in the same office. Witness declared he was a sociable individual and a person of outstanding personality. He was often amazed at accused's capacity for work above his normal duties. His services were required by all three services as well as by the P.W.D. He was in control of a mixed bomb disposal team and assisted the P.W.D. in unloading roadside magazines left behind by the Japanese.

On one occasion, he put on a diving suit and went below the water near the Kowloon Star Ferry to look for unexploded bombs believed to be lying there. He was at the beck-and-call of all Services and the P.W.D. and when they were in trouble they called for accused.

On one occasion, the British Consul in Canton wanted help in effecting repairs to a bridge and applied for assistance to Hong Kong. Accused was sent.

He was also approached with regard to the demolition of the Japanese War Memorial and it was through his advice and calculations that it came down safely. On a number of occasions he was consulted on estimates for outside work.

Efficient Work

The Chief Salvage officer, B.P.F., Captain W. A. Doust, R.N.V.R., said that accused was assigned to him because of his specialised knowledge in the disposal of unexploded bombs, mines and shells left by the Japanese. In his opinion accused discharged his work efficiently and well. This was brought to the attention of the C-in-C who, through the Admiralty, made a Commendation to accused and his party, which witness was instructed to read. The Commendation praised accused and his men for carrying out their arduous duties without mishap.

Witness concluded that he had always found accused hard working, diligent and conscientious in his duties.

Major Loranger, for the accused, then said:—

"Four charges have been

made against accused and findings of guilty have now been entered by this court. When an offence is committed, society asks for two things—one which is general and absolute in character (i.e. that the occurrence be publicly and duly recorded), the other which is individual and relative in character—namely a fair (or, if you prefer, an equitable) sanction, that the offender be punished, be punished as much as is necessary for the protection and integrity of society (order and discipline) and as much as is necessary for the correction, redirection and good of the offender himself.

Volunteered For Service

"The offence is judged and appreciated exclusively from the point of view of the society which stipulated it, the sentence being from the point of view of the society and of the individual who will hear it.

"Having been satisfied to this first part of its duty, this Court has now to consider the second part—the sentence.

"About this, the Court knows very fully the point of view of the Army. But to decide the court must wish to have also the point of view of the Accused. Who is he? What have been his conduct and life up till today?

"He was not a regular army officer when war broke out in September 1939. He was settled with his family in Canada. Within a fortnight, he had voluntarily reported for active service and had joined the Black Watch, training for a commission. There was no conscription in Canada at the time and accused was over age and not in perfect health.

"As this Unit was not selected for the First Canadian Division, he obtained permission to enlist in the 4th Field Company R.C.E. and with it was posted to the United Kingdom, arriving in Dec. 39. This company was employed in bomb disposal and normal field company duties in south of England from December 1939 to May 1941.

Bomb Disposals

"In May 1941 accused was granted his release by the Canadian Army and joined the Royal Engineers, where he could accept the immediate commission offered to him since September 1940.

"He was posted to an Royal Engineer demolition raiding company, with which he served mainly in the Plymouth area, doing bomb disposal until April 1942 when his unit was converted into a parachute company and he was not allowed to follow on account of his age.

"He was then posted to another Royal Engineer Field Company operating in Northern Ireland. His endeavours to get overseas to North Africa were not successful until April 1943, when he was posted to the Bengal Sappers and Miners in India.

"As a result of his agitations for action, he was two months afterwards posted to the Wingate Special Force and served with them until their disbandment in India in 1945. His work here consisted of training the force in demolition and sabotage, acting as commando platoon commander, himself flying supplies to the columns and special river crossing equipment.

Posted To H.K.

"After two months organising in an Royal Engineer depot at Secunderabad, India, he was in August, 1946, posted to Hongkong, which place he reached in September 1946 together with the First Occupation Force. He remained here in Hongkong until December 1946, when he was transferred to Singapore to be employed as a staff officer.

Up to Hongkong, who are we dealing with? An over-age, whose health is already impaired, a married man with children well away from the dangers of modern warfare, who leaves all when there is no special duty for him to do, joins the Services in the ranks, agitates until he manages to get to a theatre of war, and does his duty there so well that he obtains a commis-

sion and persistently rises in rank.

"All this notwithstanding that his branch of service calls often for very dangerous work, notwithstanding that he meets with a serious skull wound and again with several illnesses. There is further work to be done and he does it; up to now he has always served in the field.

"Just a word now of his services in Hong Kong. He has never done any staff work. He arrived here with the Royal Engineers force consisting of a colonel, five officers, no technicians, no tradesmen, no qualified personnel at all save one war office clerk. He is directed to take over the appointment of Staff Officer Royal Engineers (Resources) which means in fact the collection, control and issue of all engineer and building stores on behalf of the Army, R.A.F., the Government, and government-sponsored companies.

15-Hour Day

"This job (one may indeed call it a job) or appointment lasted from September, 1946, to Feb. 1947, during which time ten or eleven other untrained personnel had gradually joined the unique original clerk, and this notwithstanding many requests for help from accused to his commanding officer, who during this time could not find the means to satisfy accused's many requests.

"During this period, accused recalls that he used to have to work seven days a week and most often more than fifteen hours a day.

"In February, 1946 Major Hawco was appointed S.O. (R) and the accused took over as S.O. (E. & M.). He found, however, that owing to his experience he was asked and called and ordered to do many things and duties besides those proper to his appointment up until his departure for Singapore.

"How has he accomplished his work as an officer? He accomplished it willingly, cheerfully, energetically, thoroughly, as have been pleased to testify the G.I. of H.Q. Land Force, Capt. Doust of the R.N.V.R. and Hong Kong harbour department, the Commanding Officer of the R.E. in Hong Kong, and his brother Staff Officer, Major Martin—as you know already his services had been so outstanding that he was deemed to have well earned a very high decoration.

"When a man faces the situation which the accused has faced in April last, his first thought is will it be known to my family? 'Who will know first?' 'Who may have the chance of remaining ignorant of the unfortunate facts?'

A Comparison

"As you know, the accused has thought of these in England and those so far away in Canada. He has three children aged respectively 20, 15 and 11. The eldest is studying engineering, the two youngest are at school—thus mother and they are each depending on the accused for support and, much more, now and in the near future.

"The accused has been under arrest for three months now. This is the brother officer upon whom you are now about to pass sentence.

"The Court knows better than I to what punishment the accused is liable and the considerations which he is entitled to. 'If I am allowed I will use a comparison. When you have had an outstanding useful servant in your home and you find out after many years that because maybe he has become tired, for you have asked too much from him, or let him do too much for you of his own volition, it is true just as you were about to give him a reward in recognition of his good work—you discover he has made mistakes similar to those admitted by the accused—will you not dismiss him quietly, if severely, thinking his shame before his brother officers, his friends, the shame in his family, of the recompense he has lost, your (almost essential nowadays)—references of which he is deprived, the stigma which will follow him and mark all of his future and that of his dependants?'

"If you should deem that your duty compels you to pass a sentence more severe than a dismissal, may I then ask you to attach to the proceedings a recommendation of mercy.

"I regret to have taken up so much of the Court's time in explaining who was the person called before you, but I felt my duty to my brother officer and to the person with whom I have shared a trying week and whom I have in this short period of acquaintance learned to esteem."

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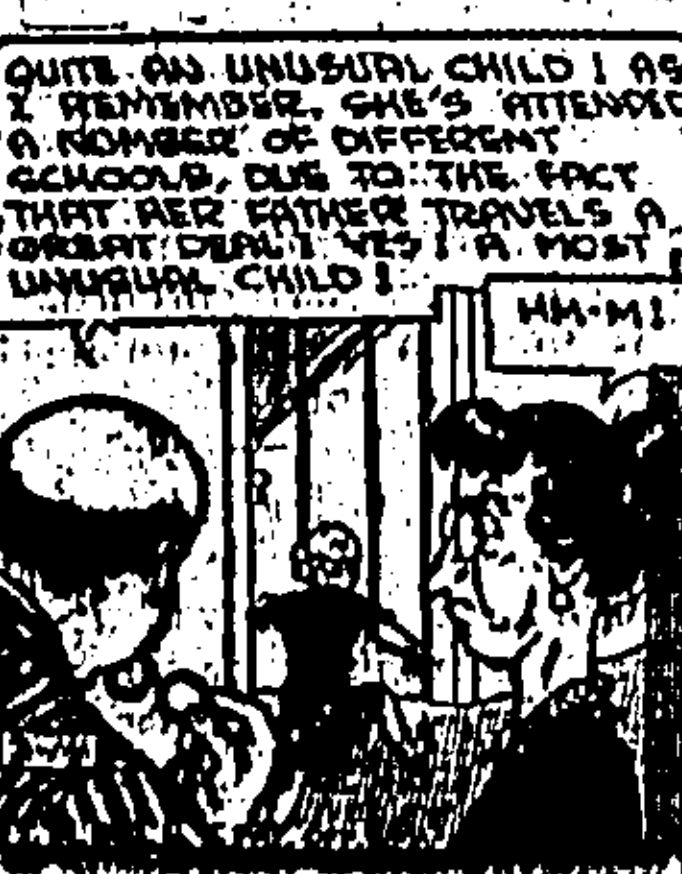
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LAND VALUES

The price of thirty dollars a square foot paid yesterday at a Government auction for Crown land in Happy Valley, in a purely residential area, would seem to lend point to Mr. Kenniff's repudiation of Government responsibility for the gross inflation of Hong Kong land values. The upset price for the property was \$14,000—on an assessment of \$5 a square foot, which most people would insist was more than enough—and the auction closed at a price of over \$80,000, more than six times as much. If, the D.P.W. argues, the Government subsidizes parcels of land to the free bidding of interested parties, and the final result is an outrageous price parallel to that quoted, there is nothing that Government can, or should, do about it; beyond, of course, profiting thereby. Such is the formal official contention: together with the submission that the taxpayer benefits and the only potential sufferer is the speculator prepared to gamble on the basis of present inflated prices. This, however, blandly ignores one of the few points of common ground in the housing controversy, the relation between the excessive cost of land and the dearth of new housing. Of the intimate association there is no question. Of the fact that official policy is more interested in profit-taking than in curbing the tendency, there is equally no question. Merely to point to the consequences of speculative activity, and wave arms in the air in an attitude of helpless depreciation is neither a useful nor a responsible attitude. The person or persons who purchased the Happy Valley lot yesterday probably have a very clear idea of what they propose to do with it and are satisfied to assume the risk involved. It remains obvious, however, that re-housing in Hong Kong cannot make headway while Government looks upon such standards as the normal and rubs its hands in a sort of gloating glee. The question that arises, naturally, is what, if anything, Government can be expected to do? Curiously enough, the strongest suggestion of an answer is to be found in the housing debate speech of the D.P.W. in the course of which he gave glaring instances of increases in land values, increases to which the lessee has contributed nothing, except to hold on long enough. In one case, the cost of the undeveloped land was \$46,000; the value today is \$1,000,000. One parcel which cost \$30,000 is worth \$600,000; a lot with an original value of \$17,161 can now be sold for \$855,950. These, naturally, are extreme examples, but they are vividly illustrative of the degree of inflation in land values in the Colony, in which Government has acquiesced if it has not given active encouragement. It is, therefore, insufficient for Mr. Kenniff to display these 'glaring examples' and use them to plead justification for riding on the band-wagon. Far more appropriate would be a Government order, imposing a tax of sixty or seventy per cent. on all profits on land transfers. The shock that would be administered would be severe; but we can imagine nothing calculated more speedily and effectively to bring the cost of land down to reasonable levels.

Moreover, transactions as from the appointed day will not be something new and untied to the British authorities. Payments agreements of the transferable amount type made with a number of countries, all important holders or users of Sterling, have been working for varying periods from February this year. Sterling has been convertible for current transactions over a large part of the world including the dollar area for some useful time before July 15.

Some of the agreements made in the past few weeks have been the shortness of the time available for discussion had to be of a temporary nature. The Egyptian agreement, for instance, runs only to the end of this year but the six months breathing given should be ample time for working out longer term arrangements. Again, to suit particular needs, most of the later agreements vary widely in character although each whatever its other variations provides for free convertibility or transferability of Sterling thereafter accruing from current transactions. Here, incidentally, it is well to recapitulate the underlying basis of Sterling convertibility. First, it applies only to current not capital transactions entered into on and after July 15. Dividends and interest payments due to foreign residents are included; second, Sterling balances accumulated up to July 15 are or will be subject to special arrangements as to withdrawal or use by any releases from them will be convertible. By these arrangements Britain is fulfilling completely her obligations under the Anglo-American loan agreement which stipulated she should not "coerce" other countries into dealing in the Sterling area by denying them other currencies.

Liquidation or reduction of Sterling balances which total some \$3,500,000,000, although problems technically apart from convertibility negotiations, have inevitably been closely inter-related with the bulk of the discussions. In payments agreements both short and long term, provision is being made for limited releases from balances over at-plated periods. These releases have been kept down to small fractions of individual balances. Discussion will be resumed later to deal with settlement of the remainder of Sterling balances, the bulk on which accumulated while Britain was making her all-out war effort at the sacrifice of exports which would have kept her imports bills to a more manageable size. As Mr. Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has clearly indicated on recent occasions, Britain looks for a scaling down of these heavy burdens to reasonable proportions.

The Dominions concerned are continuing their policy of helping Britain to the utmost by maintaining their external reserves in Sterling. As in the past eight years there were no written or formal agreements—another example of the mutual trust which exists between Britain and these great countries.

While Britain has done all in her power to fulfil her obligations under the Anglo-American loan agreement successful working of payments agreements is

COLONIAL PLAN

Only the most doctrinaire critics of the Labour Government will try to find fault with the plans for developing the economic resources of the colonies which Mr. Creech Jones has outlined. There is to be a central public corporation of colonial development generally. The corporation will be Government financed, and will be primarily responsible to the British Government. It will itself organise subsidiary concerns, whose operations will be managed in consultation with the Colonial Government. The corporation as a whole will have to pay its way,

As Britain crosses the starting line of Sterling convertibility it is clear that on a last minute weighing up of the various factors involved there will not be any heavy additional calls for conversion into dollars or gold, at least in the early stages of the arrangement. In fact it may be several months before transactions reach any sizeable amount.

This favourable start to full convertibility is due to the far-spread and thorough preparations made by the authorities in Britain before zero date July 15 to "cushion off" the impact of the arrangement. With few exceptions payments agreements have been completed to cover the bulk of future Sterling transactions coming within the scope of convertibility.

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but it will have reserves of up to one hundred million pounds. This is a constructive, as well as a boldly imaginative, scheme. It will allow a maximum of initiative and flexibility to subsidiary concerns, while preserving the essentials of public control. Already we have been told that the development programme as a whole will include not merely ground nuts, but bananas, tobacco, timber, coal, cocoa and many other products. It should be the beginning of great benefits to both the British and the Colonial peoples.

Sterling Convertibility

By John Kingsley

All in all therefore it is reasonably sure that July 15, 1947, will not cause a setback to Britain's position in international finance. On the contrary now that Sterling is freely convertible it will be made more attractive than it has been recently as a medium of settlement of international transactions.

Little good will accrue for instance from calls for conversion in respect of short-term movements on current accounts, such as a country converting into dollars or gold a temporarily favourable balance and then shortly after having to reverse the process to meet an unfavourable balance. Smooth working will be much more easily achieved by every one taking long and understanding views.

It must be remembered that Britain can always "adjust" such short-term movements by reducing her imports from the countries concerned. That, however, is a step she would be reluctant to take.

Finally on this question of exports it has been said that Sterling convertibility will mean diversion of substantial orders from Britain to the dollar area. Well, such a diversion is possible but hardly in the next few months or in any great volume. A number of other factors will determine the question not least being the relative value of the British goods, availability of the right types and quantities of goods from other sources and the difficulty of suddenly switching from one supplier to another at short notice.

TAKING A CHANCE

By EDDIE CRIGHTON

Shanghai, July 14.

The inflationary pace of currency issued by the Bank of Ming Tung hasn't caught up with that of the Central Bank of China yet, but it is running it a close second. No living person would take Ming Tung currency however. To thrust a bundle of Ming Tung notes before a Chinese shopkeeper is asking for trouble as it is purported to have been issued by the Bank of Hell.

So far, Ming Tung notes of only MT\$1,000 and MT\$5,000 denomination have been issued. The Central Bank of China has issued notes of up to CN\$10,000 denomination. This "hot money" is used to bribe the guardians of Hades. When a Chinese dies, according to Buddhist belief, he immediately descends to the lower regions to be tried by Seng Wang, the city god, and other officials.

Various tortures await him if he has led a sinful life. If he has been indiscreet as, for example, a newsman who publishes confidential off-the-record remarks, they may pull his tongue out a couple of feet. Other tortures include pan-broiling and walking the treadmill.

In writing this feature, let it be recorded I am taking an awful chance in the world hereafter. The man who told me all this was the keeper of a store selling merchandise for the dead. Their relatives burn Ming Tung currency and other objects such as radios and motor cars made from paper mache so that the dear departed might use them to win friends and influence magistrates in the Higher Courts down below. My informant could not tell me why, since only the printing costs are involved, Ming Tung notes were not printed in values higher than MT\$1,000. One explanation may be that in Hades currency inflation has no chance to snow-ball.—Associated Press.

100 Years Ago Today

(From the files of the "China Mail")

William Muggins, a seaman in the Home, indulged in a chair while in liquor and was unable to pay. His Worship ordered defendant to pay 45 cents to the cooies.

A hawk of ducks was fined 25 cents for calling out and a hawk of blood-50 cents for doing likewise and having no licence.

We would draw attention to the fact that views of Hongkong after the typhoon can be procured at the Hongkong Photographic Company and Afong's photographic studio. Some good, while others indifferent.

Cosmo Club Celebrates

Tomorrow evening, the Cosmo Club celebrates another successful step in its career by becoming a full "Members' Club" after operating for one and a half years as a proprietary Club.

Conceived in the Autumn of 1945, the Cosmo Club was the brainchild of Charles Fenn, a Captain in the United States Marines. Head of the first Allied rescue team to come into Canton and Hong Kong after Japanese capitulation, Captain Fenn and his team were seized by the Japanese in Canton on the initial attempt (Aug. 19), hit successfully landed at Kai Tak several days later.

Before returning to the United States, Captain Fenn persuaded several of his Chinese and British colleagues to co-operate in forming an International Club to be devoted to improved relations between all races in the Colony. Forward-looking residents were quick to support so worthy a project.

The Cosmo Club opened in January, 1946. One of the earliest functions was a party given by (then) Brigadier D.M. MacDonnell for the visiting military Government from Singapore. Visitors from all parts of the world have written their praises regarding the hospitality of the Club, which now has 250 members.

The permanent Chairman, popular Gerald Carey, being away on leave, the Chair is now occupied by Dr. Kenneth Chann, well-known for his untiring efforts in promoting international relations.

In addition to the restaurant, library, and games room, the Club has a fine Ballroom, where Major Cecil Way is usually master of ceremonies.

The present transformation of the Club from the (non-profit) ownership of the original sponsors to the collective ownership of all the members was the result of several months hard work contributed by "Internationalist" Marcus da Silva.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By Shepard Barclay

"The Authority on Authorities"

"DUCK" NOT A "HOLD-UP"

"THAT WAS a nice hold-up play you made," said one partner to the other by way of complimenting him on his part in defeating a No Trump game contract. "Thank you for the compliment, he replied, "but the play was a duck, not a hold-up." He went on to explain that a hold-up consists of delaying your play of a top card in order to block an opponent's run of his suit, where-as "duck" describes delay in use of a top card for the purpose of enabling you to run your own side's suit later. Both offense and defense make use of either play.

S 9 6 5					
H 10 8					
D 9 7					
C A K 6 5 3					
S 8 4 3					
H 10 6 5					
D A 8 6 5 3					
C Q 10					
	N	SKQ7			
	W	H 9 7 5			
	S	D K 10 4			
		C J 9 8 2			
	S A J 10 2				
	H A K 4 3				
	D Q J 2				
	C 7 4				

(Dealer: South. Both sides vulnerable.)

South	West	North	East
1 S	Pass	2 C	Pass
2 H	Pass	3 C	Pass
3 NT			

South's last bid was a bit bold in view of the weak sound of North's second bid, a practical sign-off in clubs. But South decided that North's ability to bid the suit at the two level on the first round showed enough strength for a No Trump game try, since the diamonds appeared to be stopped.

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



A Visit To Russian Controlled Korea

Seoul, July 13. Russians in Pyongyang do not live any better than the Koreans. In fact, sometimes I think the Koreans live even better since it is their country and they know how to get along.

It is strange to see little Russian children running around barefooted in the streets and

pretty well but were not too clean. Uniformity of dress is not at all like the American. Some dressed in white, some wore blue, some were in khaki and some in field greens.

From their feet I could find out that Russian soldiers spend two years in the army. During that time they are given one uniform each and the choice of either boots or shoes. Almost all take shoes because they look snappier.

You could not help noticing the difference between a Russian guard and our boys all approximately six feet tall and stood straight as ramrods.

When they came to attention for a Russian officer, they would swing their rifles to port, click them and you could hear the snap a mile away.

We had a straight and really snappy outfit. I think the Russians noticed that too.

Pyongyang itself is a lot cleaner than Seoul. There were not cars at all. The Russians have the city pretty well under control. Everywhere you look there were pictures of Stalin and Kim Il-sung, Korean big shot who is supposed to be head of the government. These pictures were plastered all over the city. In all big buildings, railway stations and practically everywhere.

A lot of Koreans owned vehicles—and all big trucks you see—run on charcoal burners. It reminded me of the gas shortage back home during the war. Talking about trucks, it is a funny thing but Koreans up there insist that their jeeps are Russian made. They even say all jeeps were made in the U.S.S.R. and given the Americans on loan-lease.

The industry in the north is a lot better than in South Korea. That is because most of the industrial parts are up there. It seems a lot of paper mills and other factories in Pyongyang are operating. But some of the Korean farmers told me they were a lot better off under the Japanese.

They claimed that all their fertilizer was being shipped to Russia and that they were more or less starving. They complained the seed they were getting from government was no good. As one farmer put it: "Under the Japanese we at least had our crops. Now we have nothing."—United Press.

That contract would have been made if the defense had done what many mediocre players would do. West led his diamond 5 to the K, and South put his J on the 10 return.

Now, if West should score his A and return another diamond to the Q, South could make his contract. He could play the heart A and Q, lead dummy's spade 9 and let East win it. Having no more diamonds, East would have to give South the lead with any return. Then, by taking a finesse of the spade run of his suit, where-as "duck" describes delay in use of a top card for the purpose of enabling you to run your own side's suit later. Both offense and defense make use of either play.

But West did not use his A on the second diamond. He played low. When East got the lead later in spades, he had a diamond left and led it. The A therefore took the third diamond and was followed by two more to set the contract. West's clinging to his A instead of using it on the second diamond was a duck, not a hold-up.

Tomorrow's Problem

S J 6 3					
H Q J 9 8					
D 3					
C A Q 5 4 2					
S Q 5 2					
H 10 4 3 2					
D Q 9 6 5					
C 9 8					
	N	S A K 10 8			
	W	H A K 6			
	S	D J 10			
		C J 10 6			
	S 9 4				
	H 7 5				
	D A K 8 7 4 2				
	C K 7 8				

(Dealer: South. Both sides vulnerable.)

What is the soundest defense against East's 3-Spades on this deal?

SPITTING ON FERRY

For spitting in the First Class waiting room of the Star Ferry wharf at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday, Ma Shing-tak, 40, master of the Tak Lee Grocery Shop, was fined \$20 by Mr. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday.

Leung Yu, 45, clerk of the Mee Lee Transportation Co., was fined \$20 by Mr. Latimer when he pleaded guilty to the charge of spitting from the "Northern Star" at 10.10 a.m. on July 13. It was stated that defendant spat over the rails of the launch against a strong wind.

Both Ma and Leung were arrested at the instance of Ferry Inspector Rothwell. Inspector J. Orem prosecuted in both cases.

A one-man art show, consisting of sculptures and water colours by Mr. Lyon Choi, is now being held at the St. Francis Hotel.

ATTACK AT DAWN IN GREECE

Fighting Force Enters From Albania

Qwen Falls Power Station

Kampala, July 13. A plan to build a £4,000,000 power station at Qwen Falls, Uganda, is likely to be the first major project to be financed by the £100,000,000 Colonial Development Corporation, recently announced in London by the Colonial Secretary.

The power project is linked with the vast East African grandiose farm scheduled to provide cropland for British farmers in the 1950's. Research is now proceeding on special fertilizer deposits in Uganda for the grandiose scheme, and power will be needed to produce this fertilizer in large quantities.

Such a power station would enable Uganda, which harvests maize all the year round, to stop its dependence on foreign maize for its production, and would also provide power for new textile factories scheduled to start operations in Uganda within five years. Uganda already exports 59 sugar, coffee, rubber, and tea factories.

At present, power production in this area is limited by a serious local shortage of wood and oil fuel.

If the Uganda Government approve the Qwen Falls scheme it is probable that power will be "exported" to other parts of Africa.

Such a project was foreseen 40 years ago by Mr. Winston Churchill, who described the Qwen Falls as "so much power running to waste." Mr. Churchill wrote:

"Such a lever to control the natural forces of Africa ungrudgingly, cannot but vex and stimulate the imagination. And what fun to make the immortal Nile begin its journey by driving a turbine."—Our Own Correspondent.

Last-Man Battle In Konitsa

Athens, July 14. The Greek High Command said today that an organized fighting force of more than 1,000 soldiers, including parts of an international brigade, crossed into Greece from Albania and launched a dawn attack on Konitsa, six miles from the Albanian border. Rumours that Konitsa had been captured were denied. Two companies of some 200 men were defending the town and official sources said they would fight to the last man.

Greek reinforcements were being rushed to the town of 2,000 population and the Greek Cabinet was called into emergency session.

The Greek government asked the United Nations Balkan sub-commission in Salonika to make an immediate on the spot investigation of the invasion. All Greek troops in the Athens area were placed on the alert. Some Greek officials accused the Communists of the invasion as the forerunners to proclamation of a Communist "provisional government" on Greek soil. Some said that if Konitsa were captured and held it would offer strategic possibilities as a Communist state because of its geographical position.

Mostly Albanians
Konitsa is in the valley of the Saranta River which cuts through the Grammos mountain range into Albania, thus affording a natural line of communication from Communist-occupied Yugoslavia and Greece. It is north of Yannina and west of Mount Grammos, where Greek army troops and guerrillas have been fighting a major battle for two weeks.

The attacking force was reported largely composed of Albanians sent to relieve the guerrillas. Greek tanks and other mechanized units were ordered to Konitsa from Yannina, and Greek planes from Yannina and Salonika were reported in action.—Associated Press.

Trained in France
Recent dispatches from Paris, Athens and official Greek

sources in London have given some details of the recruiting training and movements of an alleged Communist organization such as the one which was reported to have struck today. The United States State Department, it was reported, has learned that the brigade was largely recruited and trained in France in "protection centres" operated by the French General Confederation of Labour.

According to London sources, detachments of trained men are sent to Genoa and dispatched from there into Yugoslavia for further training.

Reports from Paris said Yugoslav ships had been calling at Cote, near Marseilles, to pick up French, Spanish, Italian, Polish and German volunteers and deliver them to the Yugoslav ports of Dubrovnik and Split.

One diplomatic source said the main centres for enrolment of volunteers and dispatching of recruits from France and Spain were Milan and Bari in Italy.

Wide Network
A highly-organized network was said to handle the movement of men, currency and information between the various recruiting centres. The Greek Government recently drew the attention of foreign governments to reports of the brigade's inception. Official Greek sources here said the French Foreign Minister, Georges Bidault, had asked for full details of any Greek national found serving in such an organization.—United Press.

Pushed Back
Athens, July 14. Greek officials reported that a 1,000-man force which attacked the village of Konitsa on Sunday had been pushed back to the Albanian border, six miles away.—Associated Press.

21 DIE IN FLOODS

Ankara, July 13. Floods drowned 21 people and injured several scores after torrential rains and hail in 10 villages near Ankara today. Over 100 houses were swept and crops entirely destroyed. The loss of cattle is reported to be grave.—Reuter.

Balkan Inquiry

Athens, July 13. The United Nations Balkan sub-committee of inquiry has informed the Bulgarian liaison officer that it has decided in any case to investigate in Bulgarian territory the recent frontier incidents on the Greek-Bulgarian frontier, states the Athens News Agency.

The Bulgarian liaison officer is reported to be leaving for Sofia from where the reply to the committee will be made. Last week Bulgarian, in a sudden reversal, of her attitude, agreed to grant the committee permission to investigate the recent border incidents.

In June, Bulgaria refused permission for any UNO committee to cross the border, and the UNO had to order the committee to carry on with the investigation despite Bulgaria's attitude.—Reuter.

Is He An Aussie Oyster?
Melbourne, July 13. Australia is developing a quick freezing technique which may make it possible to ship oysters to all parts of the world. A trial shipment is being prepared here and will be sent to Singapore.

The oysters are shelled, packed in glass jars and frozen. The empty shells will be shipped along with the frozen oysters so they may be reunited if the eventual order is for oysters on the half shell.

E.N. Marmaras, manager of the firm experimenting on the quick freeze method, said successful results would open up a market for 250,000 Australian oysters weekly. The United States and several Asiatic countries are interested in importing Australian oysters, he said.—United Press.

Meteor Pelted Down "Huge Fireballs"

Moscow, July 13. A huge meteor, exploding before it reached the earth, caused an extensive "rain of iron" in Siberia, burning hundreds of cedar trees and pelted the ground with huge "fireballs."

These were the findings of a Soviet expedition, which travelled through hundreds of miles of pathless jungle swamps to study the meteor which fell early this year in the remote Altai Mountains, northeast of Vladivostok.

After examining the scene and questioning over 200 villagers living in the area, the expedition considered that the meteor, of undetermined size, encountered an air cushion on its fall and exploded on hitting it. Hundreds of fragments of red-hot iron, the biggest weighing 360 pounds, rained down upon the Siberian forests.

Over an area three-quarters of a mile long by nearly half a mile wide, the earth's surface was scored with 100 craters, the biggest 100 feet in width and 25 feet in depth and 25 feet deep. All around, the dense forest had disappeared without a trace. Hundreds of trees near by had been split to fragments. Others had been twisted and thrown over at all angles.

More than 250 small meteorite fragments were found in the meteor field weighing altogether over five tons.—Reuter.

DISCUSSIONS IN JAVA

Batavia, July 13. Mr. M. Setiadjit, the Indonesian Vice-Premier, said on his arrival here today that his visit to the East Java front had been "to prepare for the cessation of hostilities."

Asked whether he had brought proposals for a joint constabulary to discuss with the Dutch Lieutenant Governor-General, Dr. Hubertus van Mook, he declined to give a direct reply, but said there were "certain ideas on the matter" which had yet to be discussed. Mr. Setiadjit is meeting Dr. Van Mook later today.—Reuter.

CONSPIRACY TRIAL

London, July 13. Radio Moscow tonight broadcast a Tass dispatch from Belgrade, which said the trial of persons accused of conspiring with the Chetniks and the United States against the Yugoslav Government ended yesterday in convictions for all defendants. The dispatch said a defendant named Pantelje was sentenced to be shot and prison terms ranging from eight months to 10 years were given the others.—United Press.

London, July 13. Six thousand tons of Polish coal are on their way to Britain in a Polish ship, Warsaw Radio reported tonight. Another vessel was to leave shortly with another 2,000 tons.—Reuter.

Laichikok Murder Case Ends Today

Summing up and verdict will be delivered today in the Laichikok murder case, in which Nu Wic-chun, No. 2 watchman of Laichikok oil installation, is charged with the murder of the No. 1 watchman, Ni Tsun-sang, on May 3.

The case entered its sixth day yesterday, and is being heard before the Chief Justice, Sir Henry Blackall. Accused is defended by Mr. J.M. D'Almada Remedios, while Mr. A. J. Clifford, assisted by Inspector Dowman, is for the Crown. Nearly the whole of yesterday morning was occupied with the continued cross-examination of the accused.

In answer to Crown Counsel, Nu said it had never been his intention to kill deceased. When he snatched the rifle from the No. 18 watchman his only thought was self-protection, as he was being chased by deceased with a gun.

He was greatly confused and frightened at the time, and did not feel the recoil when his rifle went off. He denied chasing deceased into the compound, though he could not account for his presence in the compound and his struggle with deceased's wife. He said he was being held by her round the waist, and he refused to let go his rifle for fear of being attacked.

Confused
Nor could he say how the rifle came to be reloaded. He conceded it was possible for deceased's wife to have done this without his noticing it. He did not know he had shot deceased until Nu's daughter pointed him out to the Police. Asked why he told the Police he had shot deceased because he was oppressed too much by him, Nu replied he was so confused and frightened that he did not understand what he was saying or doing.

In answer to a question from his own counsel, Nu said when he ran out into the roadway the thought never occurred to him of getting a gun. It came to him on the spur of the moment when he saw watchman No. 16.

A letter written by accused to his mother when he was at the Police Station was then read out, wherein he assured her that "he had no alternative." Asked to explain what he meant by that phrase Nu said he meant he was acting in self defence.

Accused's wife, Cheng Pui-fan, was then called by Mr. Remedios. Sometime after 10 o'clock she said, she was awakened by shouts of "help!" and, rushing out, saw her husband struggling with deceased's wife in the compound. She was too frightened to intervene and called for help.

After the Police arrived she went into the watchman's quarters and saw the No. 1 watchman bleeding. She came out immediately and said to her husband: "Uncle (meaning deceased) is very badly hurt; why don't you go away?" Her husband replied: "I'm not going away."

Cross-examined by Mr. Clifford, she said she had been married to accused for six years. Sometimes his temper was good and sometimes bad. On the day of the event he was normal and showed no sign of anger.

Mr. Remedios then submitted that in a charge of murder there must be evidence of intention or premeditation. All the evidence before the Court bore no evidence of such intention or premeditation. Accused was acting purely in self-defence.

In Fear Of Life
He had been threatened with a gun, he had been assaulted by deceased's wife, and he was in fear of his life. From beginning to end he had stuck to his story, and the letter he wrote at the Police Station to his mother (which defence counsel again read out), indicated the state of his mind.

Mr. Clifford, in his submission, said the shot was fired deliberately by accused, and a man must be presumed to have intended the consequence of his action. Nu was in a towering rage at the time, worked up to that pitch after the quarrel with deceased prior to the shooting. He submitted it was not a case of self-defence.

SENORA PERON
Rome, July 14. Members of Mrs. Juan Peron's suite said in Genoa today that the wife of the Argentine President had changed her plans and would visit London. She is expected to leave on Wednesday.

A British Embassy spokesman in Rome said the Embassy transmitted to Mrs. Peron a message from the British Foreign Office saying she would be a "very welcome guest."

A British Foreign Office spokesman said Queen Elizabeth had intimated previously she would be glad to meet the visitor.—Associated Press.

French 'Tourist' Plane

Le Havre, July 13. The first French "tourist" aeroplane to be produced in quantity since the war is rolling off the production line of the National Society of Aeronautical Construction plant here.

Known as the "S.U.C. 10," it is a "pusher-type" with the propeller at the rear of the fuselage. Its peculiarly shaped cabin, supported by three non-retractable wheels when on the ground, gives it the appearance of a "flying automobile."

The plane is powered by a 190-horsepower Mathis motor. It has a cruising speed of about 115 miles an hour and a range of 850 miles. It sells for 1,500,000 francs or \$12,500. It carries up to five persons.—United Press.

Russian Purchases In Malaya

Singapore, July 13. The Russian trade representative who has been buying rubber in Malaya since January, may leave soon because of difficulties over his visa, which has expired.

He said today that negotiations were going on in London and Moscow for an extension of the visa.

The visa difficulty has been linked in some quarters with a reported Russian refusal to extend similar facilities to British trade representatives in Russia.

Mr. Plankin, who is the only Russian citizen here, has made steady purchases of rubber through Chinese agents with the stipulation that the rubber must be transported in Russian ships.

Three shipments—3,750 tons in March (the first shipment since Malaya's liberation), 2,200 tons in April and 6,000 tons in May—have been delivered to Vladivostok or Odessa.—Reuter.

Death Sir Geo. Davis

Sydney, July 14. Sir George Francis Davis, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Davis Gelatine, Australia, Proprietary Limited, died at his home here on Sunday after a long illness. He was 64.

He was also Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Cockatoo Dock and Engineering Company, the Mount Prome Lim Company and a Director of the Mercantile Mutual Insurance Company.—Associated Press.

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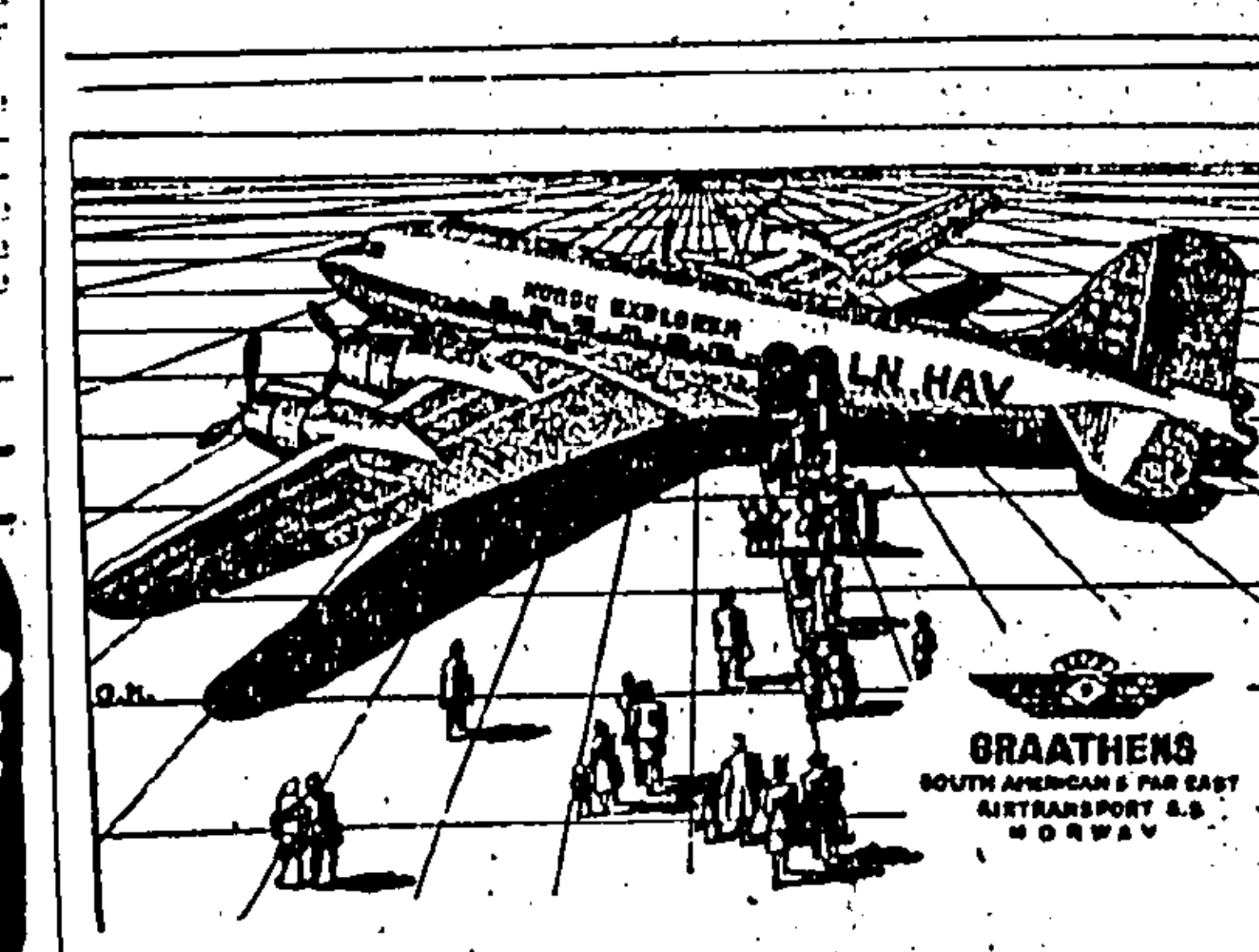
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The London Olympics West Indians May Run For Britain

(By Archie Quick)

London, July 13.
Even if Great Britain cannot win sporting events in these austere days she is at least willing to lose gracefully. In fact she is a perfect hog for punishment.

Latest announcement by the Olympic Games Organising Committee is that Britain will enter every event from art and literature to throwing the hammer, and her total team will be 348. And the odds are as low as events that not one of these competitors will win a title.

Twenty-seven nations have the Empire had Newfoundland, Malaya and Hong Kong competing. And there is no Belgium so far.

Of greatest concern to us out of that lot is the West Indies. If Trinidad and Jamaica are not going to enter, then it will mean that Macdonald Bailey and Wint will be in Great Britain's team as well as some brilliant other West Indians I keep hearing about.

I fancy Arthur Wint will be a certainty for the quarter mile if all goes well with him, but Bailey has as rivals not only Eddie Conwell, who broke the British record with 9.6, but two other Americans better than Eddie in ratings.

Switzerland will have 270 entries and France 308. Hungary says she is going to enter for nearly every event, while Cuba has settled for such diverse sports as yachting and gymnastics, basketball and shooting, skating and weight lifting, fencing and swimming, wrestling and boxing.

Hong Kong!

For instance, what is Russia going to do? And where are Jamaica and Trinidad. And now how about South Africa and India. Why, in the past

Japan Still Hopes For An Invite

Tokyo, July 13.
Japan still hopes she may be invited to the 1948 Olympic Games in London.

A 12-man committee of Japanese sports leaders voted today to designate Sept. 21 as an occasion for a gala programme marking the opening of a campaign to promote an "Olympic spirit" among Japanese with a view to winning favourable consideration from the International Olympic Committee.

The Committee picked Sept. 21 for the festivities, because Sept. 21, 1940 was the date the Japanese because of the 1940 Olympic Games in Tokyo which the Japanese abandoned under Army pressure.

A Committee spokesman said abandonment of the Games was one of the most tragic blows to the Japanese because if the Games were held international understanding might have resulted through the medium of sports, which might have stopped the Japanese militarists from plunging Japan into a disastrous war.

He added: "Now that Japan has renounced war and there is no army and no navy to occupy Japanese youths' time, sports constitute one of the best outlets for their energies."—United Press.

Bari Motor Race

Rome, July 13.
Achille Varzi, famous Italian racing driver, in his Alfa-Romeo, was first home in the International Race "Circuit of Bari" today, taking 2 hours, 32 minutes, 27 seconds to cover the 287 km. metres.

The Brazilian driver Landi and the Spaniard Jover both failed to complete the course.

The Italian drivers, Sanezi and Balestrero, also in Alfa-Romeos, were respectively second and third while the Frenchman Gricelescu was fourth.—Reuter.

DAVIS CUP

Zagreb, July 13.
A Czech won the first match in the Davis Cup European Zone finals this afternoon when the Czech No. 2 player, Vladimir Cernik, defeated Yugoslav's No. 1, Dragutin Mitic, 6-6, 6-0, 6-2, 1-6, 6-2, before 8,000 fans.

Jaroslav Drobny gave the Czechs a 2-0 lead after the first day's play by beating the Yugoslav second stringer, Josip Palada, 6-3, 8-6, 6-3.—United Press.

Diesel To Race At Belmont

London, July 13.
The Gackwar of Baroda's four year-old grey colt Diesel, by Lollendo out of Dynamite, was hoisted on board a special Sky master plane, which had been sent from the United States for the purpose, and flown to New York this evening, ready to compete at Belmont Park towards the end of the week.

It is expected that P. Khude, the Indian jockey, will ride Diesel in the race before Khude proceeds to India to be ready for the racing season there. Diesel will be returned to England by the same plane after the race. He had his hooves disinfected before going aboard to a specially constructed stall, and the only other cargo was his own fodder, while his groom, W. Gill, accompanied him.

His trainer, Fred Armstrong, was at the airport to see the thoroughbred off as was Mr. Aitken of the Empire City Racing Association, who had been largely responsible for the experiment, as the flight was intended to encourage owners in England to race their horses on American tracks.—Reuter.

Mountain Cycle Race

Paris, July 13.
At the end of the 15th stage of the Tour de France from Luchon to Pau today, Rene Vietto of France retained the lead in the race with a total time of 107 hours, 57 minutes, 7 seconds.

He was followed by Pierre Brambilla of Italy with a time of 108 hours and 51 seconds. In third place was Aldo Ronzani of Italy, with 108 hours, 3 minutes, 2 seconds.

Jean Robic of France won today's stage, covering 105 kilometres in 6 hours, 46 minutes, 11 seconds, followed by Vietto and Ronzani, who tied at 6 hours, 56 minutes, 54 seconds.

Prizes for the best mountain cyclist over a region encompassing the Alps and Pyrenees were awarded today, the first prize going to Brambilla with a score of 98 points. Jean Robic with a score of 70 points took second place.—Reuter.

Dodgers' Seventh Straight Win

New York, July 14.
In the National League, Clyde King, a Brooklyn relief artist, graduated to the ranks of starting pitchers with a six hit 9-3 win over Cincinnati for the Dodgers' seventh straight victory.

In the first game, the Phillies pushed over two runs in the 10th to break a two-all tie, winning the game 4-2. The Cardinals rallied in the ninth inning and then won in the 10th. They won 4-2.

A two run homer in the first game by Tommy Holmes in the eighth, his fifth of the year, was the Braves' victory margin in their 8-7 win over Chicago.

In the second game, as in the first, the Braves came from behind to hand the Cubs their ninth straight loss, in a 6-5 victory.

Pittsburgh in the first game, routed Mort Cooper in a four-run fifth inning and continued to pound out 11 hits, including Ralph Kiner's 22nd homer to beat the Giants 6-2.

In the second game, homers by Billy Rigney and Bob Thomson helped Larry Jansen and his fellow Giants to square matters with the Pirates in a 3-1 victory.

In the American League, the Indians rapped two Red Sox hurlers in the first game for 14 hits, including Joe Gordon's homer, to beat Boston 8-0.

In the second game, Steve Gromek and Ed Lehman throttled Boston 6-2 with five hits.

In the first game, Washington beat St. Louis 4-2.

In the second game, Jerry Witte singled in the last of the ninth and Vern Stephens homered to give the Braves their first win in the last eight starts. St. Louis beat Washington 3-2.

In the first game, Bobo Newsum, 58, made his first start for the Yankees when he pitched them to their 10th straight victory over Chicago 10-0. Newsum was purchased from Washington.

Bluebird Reaches 150 M.P.H.

Poole, July 14.
Sir Malcolm Campbell drove his jet-powered 26 foot long boat Bluebird on Sunday at a speed estimated by engineers at 150 miles an hour in a trial preparatory to an attempt to break his own speedboat record of 141.76 mph.

Sir Malcolm said the boat's excessive "snaking" from side to side which caused him to delay in June the attempt on the record, which he had planned, apparently had been corrected by undisclosed modifications.

He said that Bluebird would be returned to Lake Coniston in Lancashire "as soon as possible" for another attempt on the record.

Only a few spectators saw the boat streak up the two-mile course in the bay here with her jets screaming and throwing a long trail of white vapour and

Bastille Day Reception

France's National Day was celebrated last night at the Hong Kong Hotel where a large number of guests congregated to mark the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille.

The French Consul, M. R. E. Jobez and Mme. Jobez, who were the hosts received their guests in the gaily decorated Roof Garden of the Hotel which was lit up with flags of France and Britain prominently displayed on the walls as well as the Cross of the Free French.

M. Jobez told the gathering "Today is a general holiday in France and it is a tradition to rejoice on this day in our own country and with all friends of France." M. Jobez said that France was conscious of her past-war continuance to act in the world scene, and of the future importance that had been assigned to her by her destiny in the European situation.

France would be able to contribute usefully to the stability of social peace in the world.

"We should not attach too much importance to the difficulties which are apparent in France," he said. "The French, like their ancestors are very fond of political arguments but they are used to a certain way of life which is part of their existence and they will not compromise it by dangerous experiments." A reassuring factor, said M. Jobez was that France had kept all her friendships in the post-war period.

Particularly he said, this year had been seen on the international scene, a very important act—the Franco-British Alliance signed in Dunkirk on March 4. The Entente Cordiale had become stronger and stronger through two wars and numbers of difficulties. The benefit of peace was precious for all people. It was particularly essential to a Republican democracy.

It was also a decisive factor, said M. Jobez, that America had shown continuance of association with her European Allies after the war and was showing herself a friend of democratic liberties.

Following M. Jobez's speech, toasts were drunk to France and the King.

Among those present were the C.O.A. the Hon. Mr. D. M. McDougall, Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd and Lady Boyd, Maj. Gen. G. W. Erskine, A.O.C. S.M. Webster, Commodore D. H. Everett, the Hon. R. Todd, the Hon. M. K. L. Eir, Lt. Hugh Gibson, Commissioner of Police Mr. D. W. Macintosh and Mrs. Macintosh, Mr. and Mrs. Major Mr. W. Grundman, Mr. A.S. Roger, M. Marnas of the French Foreign Office, Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Kwo, Mr. K. Y. Leung, Mr. A. K. Diamond, Mr. L. C. Smith, Mr. V. Konrick, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Richardson, Sir Robert Ho Tung, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Noble, Mr. and Mrs. George D. Hopper, Mr. Wynne Jones, Mr. J. R. Jones, Mr. R. Egan, Mr. R. D. Gillespie, M. de Champeaux of the Bank of Indo-China, Mr. A. Segalen, M. Armand, Manager of the Hong Kong-Canton Express Company, Mr. H. G. W. Woodhead of the London Times, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Kite, Mr. D. J. MacWhirter, Mr. and Mrs. O. Jolly, Mr. and Mrs. C. Follows, Mr. B. Belina, Mr. J. Cator and Mrs. Cator, Mr. Ferrel, M. and Mlle. Monique Arnoux.

PLEA FOR EASY TERMS Statement By Japanese Minister

NEW PROTEST TO SOVIET?

Nanking, July 14.
The Chinese Government is planning to lodge another protest with the Soviet Government regarding the taking over of Port Arthur and Dairen, sources close to the Foreign Ministry said today. This source said the Government considered the Soviet reply to the first note unsatisfactory.—United Press.

Reds Take Famous Town

Nanking, July 14.
Taiherhuang, important city at the terminus of the Taiherhuang-Lincheng railway, has fallen to Communist troops now on the offensive in South Shantung, according to unconfirmed reports here today.

Taiherhuang, scene of the first major battle during the Sino-Japanese war, lies only 36 miles northeast of the Nationalist military supply and communications base of Haichow.

The source reporting the fall of Taiherhuang stated what with the Communist offensive in South Shantung under way, Haichow has now become "the first line of defence."

Military quarters contacted here declined to comment on the situation around the city.—Reuter.

Taiwan Retaken

Shanghai, July 14.
Nationalist troops have retaken Taiwan, strategic railway town 30 miles south of Tainan in Shantung Province, after a brisk attack on Sunday evening, pro-Government dispatches claimed today.

General Wang Yao-wu's troops are now mopping up Communist stragglers in a street battle.

The reported capture of the

Warwick Armstrong Dead

Sydney, July 14.
Warwick Windridge, the famous Test cricketer, died on Sunday morning at his Sydney home at the age of 68.

Many cricketers maintain that Armstrong was Australia's greatest test captain. Others rank him second only to the late Monty Noble.

If not the greatest captain, he was probably the most picturesque. A towering figure on the field, he played vigorously the whole time. He weighed 20 stone and was 42 when he captained Australia in England in 1921—his last tour—and headed the bowling averages.

He toured England with four Australian teams—in 1902, 1906, 1919 and 1921. He played in 42 Test matches against England.—Associated Press.

Cochet Wins Dutch Title

Noordwijk, Holland, July 13.
In the finals of the Dutch Lawn Tennis Championships, Henri Cochet of France beat Eustace Fannin of South Africa 6-1 and 6-1 in the Men's Singles.

In the Women's Singles Championship final, Mrs. Bolton of Australia beat Mrs. Summers of South Africa 7-5 and 7-5.

The Women's Doubles title went to Miss Osborne and Miss Brough of the United States, who beat Miss Hart and Mrs. Todd 6-2, 4-6 and 10-7.

The Men's Doubles title went to Eustace Fannin and Eric Sturgess of South Africa, who beat A. van Swol and I. Rinkel of Holland 6-3 and 11-9.

Mrs. Bolton and J. Harper beat Mrs. Summers and Eric Sturgess 6-4 and 6-1 in the final of the Mixed Doubles.—Reuter.

city cuts communications between the Communists in East and West Shantung.—United Press.

Football A La Russe

(By Eddy Gilmore)

Moscow, July 14.
The game of soccer played here is enlivened by startling innovations. Spectators of Russian football get everything from carrier pigeons to caviar.

The best soccer stadium in Moscow is the big Dynamo Stadium, reached by underground and street railways, motor buses, the city's six-passenger "collective" taxicabs, or by walking.

Games are started late to allow the workers time to finish their shifts and get to the stadium. In addition, spring twilights are very long in Russia and it seldom is dark before 9 p.m.

Dynamo Stadium, large, modern and clean, seats 20,000. But enthusiasm runs so high that 20,000 standees almost invariably attend.

Before the game and between the halves, opera music is piped in, over a loudspeaker system. At the beginning of the season, spectators' programmes sold for one ruble each, but when "Pravda" editorially criticized this high price, the cost was reduced by half to 50 kopecks.

When either team scores, a carrier pigeon is released from the field scoreboard, with the record of the goal to his foot. The pigeon flies off and is not seen again. The procedure is a complete mystery to Western spectators.

Ice Cream

No matter how cold it gets, ice cream is sold in the stands, as is caviar on bread.

Russian football crowds are very partisan. They cheer and shout for their favourites and what they consider a bad decision or rough play elicits from

Slowing Down Recovery?

Tokyo, July 13.
Japanese Commerce and Industry Minister Choza-buro Mizutani today expressed a fear that reparations from current production might seriously slow down Japan's rehabilitation and hoped that the Allies in enforcing such a formula would seek to minimise its ill effects.

He said: "Our candid position is that we are prepared to meet the war bill in full, honestly and to whatever extent is demanded. However, we would infinitely prefer a single settlement."

The Minister is the chief Japanese official responsible for carrying out reparations commitments. Japanese reparations from current and future production as well as the removal of capital goods was announced late last week by the Far Eastern Commission in Washington as part of the post-surrender policy for Japan by the Allies.

Mizutani also feared that a pay-as-you-go arrangement might but into Japan's export capacity and menace the country's ability to export vital materials needed by her economy.

"The immediate effect will be to hamper our efforts to overcome the economic difficulties which beset the country," Mizutani said. "It will cut into power and transportation both of which are already taxed to the maximum by domestic needs. It will additionally cut into raw materials and staid production and thereby bring inflation."

"If the method is unavoidable, we sincerely hope the Allies will endeavour to confine its undesirable effects to the minimum."

Mizutani specifically listed three points to which he hoped, if the current production formula is enforced, the Allies would give due consideration:

(1) the need for a clearcut definition regarding the period of reparations payments, classification of the commodities to be affected and their quantity for removal;

(2) the possibility of exempting certain types of plants and equipment such as electric power installations, which the Japanese Government consider vital to the country's peaceful economic reconstruction;

(3) recognition by the Allies of Japan's import needs which in turn must be financed by exporters and the development of an exchange arrangement which would safeguard the Japanese against losses in international settlements.—United Press.

Period Of Payments

Japan's import needs which in turn must be financed by exporters and the development of an exchange arrangement which would safeguard the Japanese against losses in international settlements.—United Press.

MOUNT PARKER AIR CRASH ENQUIRY

(Continued from Page 1)
The eastward flight trials and has now been promulgated by a Notice to Airmen.

All operators were advised of the second recommendation but it is expected that the installation of additional radio equipment on Victoria Peak, which will be ready in July, will render this precaution unnecessary.

Lighthouse personnel on Wai-lan Island are now trained in the estimation of weather conditions. Close liaison between the meteorological office and Control Tower is fully maintained.

ROBBERS' HAUL IN N.T.

Three men armed with three revolvers robbed three houses in Sum-Tin village, Lok Ma Chau, N.T., at about 2.00 a.m. yesterday.

From the first house, occupied by a Chinese named Ma, Cheong recently returned from America, they took \$2,200 in Hong Kong currency and a cheque drawn on the National City Bank of New York for US\$2,500.

From the second house they only got \$16 and from the third nothing.

TROOPS FOR THE EAST

Liverpool, July 14.
More than 2,300 army personnel will leave Liverpool tonight in the troopship "George of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha".

The "George" is going to Port Said, Colombo and Singapore, where it will be joined by the "HMS Prince of Wales" and the "HMS Ramillies".

Big Landslide In Gold

Gold suffered one of the biggest landslides of the year yesterday as it went on a non-stop descent from \$348 to \$328.50 a-ounce.

The market had opened strong at \$346 a tael and was off to a rising start till it got to \$348 when the selling bloc forced a rumour that gold had been bought at about \$320, and the price began to topple.

The market closed with speculators uncertain which way to operate.

Prices were quiet, opening at \$11 a 100, rising to \$11.20, and closing at \$11.15.

Chinese National Currency futures were quoted nominal at 11 cents for CN\$1,000. Spot fell from 14 1/2 cents to 14 cents.

U.S. dollars shot up to 4.98. Sterling also appreciated to \$13.50. Australian pounds were unchanged at \$12.50.

GANDHI AND LORD LOUIS

New Delhi, July 13.
Mr. Gandhi had his longest-ever talk with the Viceroy, Viscount Mountbatten, today.

He met him for three hours after Mr. Jinnah, President of the Muslim League, had denied at a press conference Mr. Gandhi's accusation that he had gone back on his word in accepting the Governor Generalship of the new Dominion of Pakistan.—Reuter.

HOLLYWOOD

Inglewood, Calif., July 13.
Yankee Valor, by Holly of out Valoria, won the \$50,000 Hollywood Derby over a mile-and-a-quarter here yesterday, easily, in two minutes 1.8 seconds.

Drawing away on entering the home stretch, Yankee Valor went rapidly into a big lead but there was a photo finish for the second and third places before On Trust, the favourite, was placed second and Steppfather third.—Reuter.

RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m., and 6.30 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 9.53 kilocycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 7.30 to 8.00 and 1.15 to 11.00 p.m.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
12.35 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
12.40 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
12.45 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.

1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.15 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
1.20 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
1.25 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
6.30 p.m.—H.I.C. Transcription Service "The Black Album", Part 4. "The Bidding", "Pamela" and "The Secret Passage".
7.00 p.m.—De Gruy and His Orchestra.
7.10 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
7.15 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
7.20 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.

7.45 p.m.—Studio Vocal Recital by Elvia Yoon (Soprano).
8.00 p.m.—London Relay: World News.
8.10 p.m.—London Relay: Home News from Britain.
8.15 p.m.—Studio Vocal Recital by Elvia Yoon (Soprano).
8.20 p.m.—London Philharmonic Orchestra.
8.30 p.m.—Studio "Radio Magazine".
8.40 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
8.45 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.
8.50 p.m.—Music "Happy" Lorenz and His Orchestra.

9.50 p.m.—London Relay: World News.
10.10 p.m.—Weather Report.
10.15 p.m.—Relay of the Dance Orchestra from the Paramount Ballroom.
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

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